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Grand National lottery

As the weights are published the National becomes less of a gamble, page 41



Living doll

Woman who rebuilt herself in the image of Barbie, page 16



A concert ticket for 20p

From Mozart to the Cajun Boat Band, take a friend for 20p. Details, page 15

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,184

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1995

Councils will be told to use reserves

Ministers to dig in over teachers' pay

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND JOHN O'LEARY

MINISTERS are braced for a showdown with town hall chiefs and school governors over teachers' pay.

They have dismissed calls for more money to fund a 2.7 per cent pay award and will tell local authorities and schools to dip into their reserves and balances to meet the £270 million increase for 470,000 teachers. Phasing in the rise to ease the pressure on the education service also appears to have been rejected.

As an indication of the Government's resolve to see off a protest from schools, the Education Department yesterday took a tough line with school governors who threatened to exceed their budgets. The department made it clear that schools taking such action would be removed from the control of governors and be managed by local authorities.

Matters will come to a head on Thursday when the Cabinet approves pay increases of about 2.7 per cent for 1.4 million public servants.

Senior Downing Street officials indicated yesterday that there was no extra money, although the Government was aware of concerns being raised.

While health authorities and the armed forces can pay the increases at a pinch, the education service is in turmoil with leaders warning that its cash increase of only 1.1 per cent this year leaves it about £160 million short of the review body figure.

Council leaders are claiming that thousands of teaching jobs will be axed and class sizes will rise if they are forced



Shephard: accused of passing the buck

to meet the new bill without help from the Government.

Governors are threatening to set illegal budgets in an attempt to meet the pay award — a step that would compel town halls to intervene and take over the running of schools. But the National Association of Governors and Managers yesterday warned members not to break the law.

Phasing of review body awards has been tried in the past and a decision, say, to pay teachers 1.5 per cent now and the rest in the autumn would take some of the strain off cash-strapped town halls.

But senior ministerial and Whitehall sources last night indicated that this option has been discarded. Ministers were adamant that schools could pay a rise of about 2.7 per cent without shedding staff.

The controversy will flare up in the Commons today when Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, will face

a Labour attack on the Government's squeeze on school budgets. David Blunkett, the shadow Education Secretary, said last night that ministers could not "pass the buck" to town halls and school governors.

The row will spill into tomorrow's debates when John Redwood, the Welsh Secretary, defends his part of the national local authority settlement. Mr Redwood will retaliate against the Government's critics by claiming that the 2,000 schools in the principalities have balances of £50 million from money not spent in previous years. He will argue that they should dip into these reserves to help to meet the cost of the pay award.

Despite the furor being generated across the south of England, ministers appeared confident last night of weathering the storm.

Tory MPs have been bombarded with hundreds of protest letters in recent weeks about the threat to educational standards. However, they have been slow to react because they believe that much of the campaign is being orchestrated by their opponents.

Ministers also pointed out that because many shires are now hung or under Labour or Liberal Democrat control, Tory MPs are less inclined to fight on their behalf.

The Cabinet will also approve pay rises for doctors, nurses, paramedics, the armed forces and senior civil servants and judges on Thursday. Their awards are

Continued on page 2, col 6



An artist's impression of Rosemary West in Dursley Magistrates' Court yesterday for her committal hearing. Drawing: Priscilla Coleman

Media flock to Rosemary West court

By RICHARD DUCE AND BILL FROST

A QUIET Cotswold town became the centre of international media attention yesterday as a stipendiary magistrate opened a hearing to decide if Rosemary West should stand trial for ten murders.

About 150 reporters and photographers gathered at Dursley Magistrates' Court in Gloucestershire for the first day of committal proceedings against Mrs West, 41, after her husband, Frederick, killed himself in Winslow Green Prison on New Year's Day. He had been accused of 12 murders.

Mrs West, formerly of Cromwell Street, Gloucester, is accused of murdering ten women including her

daughter and stepdaughter between April 1971 and February last year. Mrs West arrived two hours early at the building, which has been brought back into use at a cost of £17,000 for the estimated week-long hearing. A crowd outside shouted and threw eggs.

Two policemen on motorcycles stopped traffic to let through the van which brought Mrs West on the 20-mile trip from Pucklechurch Remand Centre, near Bristol. Strict security surrounded the packed court. Only six members of the public were admitted — five schoolgirls and a man.

Before the case started Peter Badge, the Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, warned journalists that they must confine their reports to specific points under the Magistrates Court Act of 1980. These points limit

details of proceedings to the age and identity of Mrs West and the charges against her. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Media representatives from Belgium, Germany, France, Australia and Canada descended on the courtroom. While British journalists are restricted in what they can report, the foreign press may report the proceedings in full, provided their work is not seen in this country.

Wearing a long white blouse, Mrs West spoke only to confirm her name and that she was now of no fixed address. The mother of eight, who is on legal aid, is represented by Sasha Wass. Neil Butterfield, QC, is acting for the Crown Prosecution Service.

Four hours of court proceedings were taken up with legal argument.

Mr Badge, 63, has to decide whether there is sufficient evidence against Mrs West to establish a prima facie case.

The bodies of nine of Mrs West's alleged victims were found buried at the house in Cromwell Street and the tenth, her stepdaughter Charmaine, was discovered at the Wests' former home in Midland Road, Gloucester.

Mrs West is accused of the murders of Charmaine West, Shirley Robinson, Shirley Hubbard, Theresa Siegen-thaler, Lynda Gough, Carol Anne Cooper, Lucy Partridge, Juanita Mott, Alison Chambers, and Heather West. She also faces two joint charges of rape with William Smith and Whitley Purcell. The case continues today.

Media in town, page 16

Minister accused in pickaxe dispute

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE political future of Allan Stewart, the Scottish Office minister for industry, was under question last night after he was accused of assaulting a roads protester.

Lindsay Keenan, 30, one of the demonstrators campaigning against the extension of the M77 between Ayr and Glasgow, alleged that Mr Stewart used threatening and abusive language, pushed him and brandished a pickaxe.

Mr Stewart has admitted to picking up the pickaxe for his own safety. He was interviewed by police at Giffnock police station on the outskirts of Glasgow after the incident



Stewart: "self defence"

on Sunday afternoon.

Mr Keenan said yesterday that around ten protesters were cleaning out a derelict building on the grounds of Pollok Castle Estate in Glasgow when Mr Stewart, his 16-year-old son Gareth and a group of about six others arrived and started tearing down the protesters' banners.

"He [Stewart] was screaming right in my face and then he pushed a couple of times before giving me a huge hard shove," Mr Keenan said. Mr Stewart went to where the protesters' tools were lying and picked up a pickaxe.

Mr Stewart said he had made the visit to the site in anticipation of discussions with the Secretary of State next week. Part of the M77 extension will run through Mr Stewart's Eastwood constituency. "Shortly after arrival, we were rushed by a group of about a dozen protesters. There was a pickaxe at my feet. I freely admit that I was afraid for my own safety and that of my companions and I picked it up to prevent anyone else doing so."

Profile, page 2

Hunt on collision course with Nolan

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON WHITTHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is on a potential collision course with the Nolan committee on standards in public life over the rules governing private-sector jobs for former ministers.

David Hunt, who will today present the Government's evidence to the inquiry, yesterday described criticism of former ministers who had gone into business as "outrageous". He said that the Government believed the existing code of conduct for ministers was adequate and stricter rules could discourage talented people from accepting office, he said.

The Government view contrasts with evidence given by a range of former ministers, including Lord Younger of Prestwick and Sir Norman Fowler, who have told the committee that rules are needed similar to those governing former senior civil servants. These require formal approval of business appointments within two years of leaving. Lord Nolan has said he has not yet reached any conclusions, but a similar system for ministers is clearly finding favour with members of his committee.

Mr Hunt, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, did not refer specifically to Lord Wakeham's appointment two weeks ago as a director at NM Rothschild, the merchant bank, but said: "Unfair attacks should not be used to Continued on page 2, col 6

Quango rules, page 10
Leading article, page 19

Publishers to sue on cut-price books

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

PENGUIN Books is among leading publishers taking legal action against Asda, to stop the supermarket chain from slashing prices of their best-sellers. In a direct attack on the Net Book Agreement, titles by Frederick Forsyth and Mary Wesley are among a dozen popular paperbacks that cost £1 less at Asda than elsewhere.

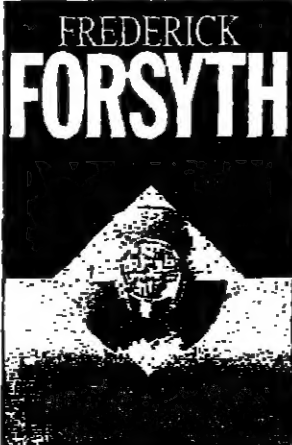
A price-war has seen a few booksellers and publishers increasingly tempted to break away from the price-fixing agreement.

But a publishers' spokeswoman said yesterday: "If publishers take legal action, Asda don't have a leg to stand on. They will have broken a contract."

Trevor Glover, managing director of Penguin UK, said: "We will take legal action. The NBA is a legal instrument. We happen to believe it is beneficial to the whole business of reading and writing."

Paul Sherer, managing director of Transworld Publishers, said: "We too are taking legal action." Transworld published Frederick Forsyth's *First of God*, whose £5.99 price has been cut by Asda. Mr Sherer said that Asda's decision had come as "a total surprise".

An Asda spokeswoman said that any legal action would be considered "as and when it happens". Sainsbury's, whose supermarkets also stock books, said that they were watching developments "with interest". Safeway said it would match Asda's cuts of £1 on 12 paperbacks.



New Forsyth bestseller cheaper in supermarket

Power chief defends pay

Ed Wallis, the chief executive of PowerGen and the latest businessman to be put under the public microscope for his highly-paid remuneration package, yesterday defended a potential £1.2 million earned on share options last year.

After helping to launch the Government's £4 billion sale of shares in his company and the larger National Power, Mr Wallis said: "I think I am worth what I am paid. My pay is independently set — I don't negotiate it myself." He said shareholders had done very well. Page 23

EU backs new Balkan summit

French plans for a summit meeting between the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia were backed by the European Union yesterday. The meeting, intended to pave the way for an international conference on the former Yugoslavia, came as the Bosnian Government agreed to consider talks with Serbia on mutual recognition. Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, said: "We should think about this for Bosnia-Herzegovina and Belgrade." Page 12

Princess speech in Japanese

The Princess of Wales started her three-day working trip to Japan with a visit to disabled and terminally ill children at a Tokyo hospital, where she delighted her audience by delivering her lunchtime speech partly in Japanese. During her visit the Princess also expressed her sympathy for the victims of the Kobe earthquake. Page 3

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Knight of the shires roams Robin Hood country



Sir Jerry: confidence

NOT so long ago and perhaps a little belatedly, the Queen knighted Jerry Wiggin (C. Weston-super-Mare). This will have surprised only Jerry Wiggin, who in his own mind had been a knight for decades and must have been a trifle disappointed that Her Majesty took so long to notice. "Mr Wiggin" had never sounded right.

There is something touching about the way self-assurance settles about the shoulders of a middle-aged backbencher. Not, of course, that Sir Jerry lacks distinction. He was Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and food from 1979-81. According to the *Register of Members' Inter-*

ests, he is a consultant to British Sugar, an adviser to the British Marine Industries Federation, an adviser to the Weighing Federation and the Security Industry Federation and a consultant to Sears plc. To crown these adornments (and this is what must have swung it with Her Majesty) he is an adviser to the British Holiday and Home Parks Association.

Stuck for small talk at the Honours Investiture ceremony, the Queen could have consulted the register and asked him about his sponsored visit in 1992 to Photokina, Cologne, as the guest of Kodak Limited. Or she might have inquired about the market research for which,



MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

apparently, he kindly undertook to visit France in 1993 as a guest of British Midland Airways. Educated at Eton (shooting colours) and Cambridge (shooting colours) and a man of many parts, Sir Jerry radiates a natural dignity and sense of self-worth, such as might befit a sultan of Somerset and nabob of Weston-super-Mare. I like to imagine him helping with the donkey rides.

And Sir Jerry is also a retired tenant farmer. It will have been knowledge gained

in this field which led him into the Chamber yesterday afternoon to debate the Agricultural Tenancies Bill (Lords) (Second Reading). Sir Jerry told the Secretary of State, William Waldegrave, that his new Bill was more or less on the right lines.

It is one of the delights of parliamentary life to watch a knight of the shires sharing the special knowledge he has gained with a wider public. Peering over his half moon glasses at Mr Waldegrave, he expressed his pleasure that

"the various interested parties have managed to agree".

Sir Jerry began to bristle a little as he described the iniquities of the former system for agricultural tenancies. It was based on "the Robin Hood principle" he said, his colour rising. The rich had been robbed to pay the poor. Tenants had had a good deal. Now, some would "scream their heads off". And "what right" had anyone to be a farmer? Sir Jerry was quivering with outrage.

He moved, briefly ("the fact of the matter is"), to attack county council smallholdings and to touch on the Less Favoured Areas Ewe Premium. Not for nothing had the 93 members of the public now

staring down in bafflement from the Strangers' Gallery travelled to Westminster to witness our Mother of Parliaments in action. Around him, the five other backbenchers in the Chamber fidgeted. Upstairs, the two journalists in the Press Gallery rested their pencils.

And I asked myself whether in the history of the world any square yard has ever been occupied by anyone more confident of his opinion, secure in his authority, or disregarded by everybody else, than a Tory backbencher of a certain age and status, debating a specialised subject of which he has personal experience, at half past five on a Monday afternoon?

Big pay cut for hospital manager

The highest paid NHS trust chief executive has taken a pay cut after details of his £160,000 package were revealed. Shaw Edwards runs the North Middlesex Hospital in Edmonton, which was paying his consultancy firm, Ernst & Young, more than £12,000 a month to employ him for four days a week. He has been appointed full-time on a £90,000 salary.

Ecstasy death

A man has died at the Mirage Nightclub in Windsor, Berkshire, after taking ecstasy, the second death at the club in five months. John William Robb, 23, from Thame, Oxfordshire, collapsed on the dance floor and died on the way to hospital.

Threat lifted

The Treliste Hospital in Cornwall, accused of leaving a hypodermic needle in a newborn baby's back, has lifted the threat of court action against the baby's parents for return of the needle and says it wants it back "within an acceptable time".

Foxhunt ban

Fox hunting is to be banned on land controlled by the National Trust for Scotland, the trust's council announced yesterday. Animal rights groups are now urging the English National Trust to follow its lead.

Overtime cut

The largest police force in Scotland has stopped overtime payments to officers investigating murders and other serious crimes because of financial cutbacks. Strathclyde has overspent this year's police budget by an estimated £790,000.

Boy hanged

Police were yesterday investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of Anil Choukse, 15, found hanged at his home in Sale, Greater Manchester, on Friday. He was a pupil at Manchester Grammar School.

Tribunal win

WPC Suzanne Box, 37, won an undisclosed sum in damages at an industrial tribunal yesterday after the Metropolitan Police admitted sexual discrimination. She was denied promotion to sergeant because she was pregnant.

McClure dies

Doug McClure, above, an actor best known for his role as a cowboy in the long-running television series *The Virginian*, has died from lung cancer. He was 59. McClure died at his home in the Los Angeles suburb of Sherman Oaks. Obituary, page 21

Chess sponsor

Luke McShane, 11, a British chess prodigy who last year became the youngest player to defeat an International master, has gained a £12,000 sponsorship deal from the British computer company Psion. Chess column, page 5

Quango rules

Leading article, page 10

Correction

A report (January 31) incorrectly stated that Rosslyn Chapel was in Kirkcaldy, Fife, rather than Roslin, Midlothian. We apologise for the error.

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Hurd slaps down Aitken in Euro appeal for calm

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

DOUGLAS HURD tried to calm Conservative tensions over Europe last night by advising senior politicians to stop speculating on whether they would back a single currency in four or five years.

In what appeared to be an implied rebuke to his Cabinet colleague Jonathan Aitken, the Foreign Secretary said that politicians who were wise would resist the temptation to speculate too far. The day after the Treasury Chief Secretary said: "I do not want a single currency, period, for as far as I can foresee". Mr Hurd said it was both "quixotic and unnecessary" to say yes or no now to an option that might occur in 1999.

Mr Hurd's intervention came after a day of confusion surrounding the Government's European policy, which is to be exploited by the Opposition parties in a Commons debate next week.

Paddy Ashdown announced that the Liberal Democrats would be using a rare parliamentary debate slot to propose a referendum on Europe. He is hoping to attract Labour, the Unionists and the whippers Tories into embarrassing the Government. Downing Street

officials confirmed last night that the British Government would be proposing that new factors be taken into account before a decision on a single currency was taken. But they emphasised that the procedure for extending the conditions had always been included in the Maastricht Treaty.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is to spell out details on Thursday. Mr Hurd's speech last night to the Bankers' Club in London followed clear signs of unease within the Government that Mr Major had been interpreted as moving too far down the path of Euro-scepticism in his speech to the Thatcherite Conservative Way Forward group on Friday.

While Conservative sources drew particular attention to a passage in the speech suggesting that Mr Major would be setting new conditions for entry to a single currency, Downing Street chose to highlight Mr Major's remarks refusing to close off the option of going into a single currency, possibly in 1999.

Senior officials emphasised the Government's determination to be involved in discussions in Europe in the

run-up to a single currency, irrespective of whether Britain eventually joined. The doubts confirmed the extreme difficulty of Mr Major's task of balancing the opposing forces of his party.

There was strong Cabinet irritation with Mr Aitken yesterday. Even right-wing colleagues felt he had gone well beyond the agreed line in suggesting that a single currency could be decades away and saying that he would "hesitate for an eternity" before agreeing to one.

Mr Hurd emphasised that the Government was keeping its options open after 1996 or 1997. If others pressed ahead at that stage Britain would stay out. But in remarks apparently aimed at Mr Aitken he said: "I believe those who are wise will resist the temptation to speculate too far. Never is as foolish a word as now in this context."

Mr Hurd's words marked another stage in the pro-European counter-attack. He said that between now and the time the decision was made "we need to hear a little less of the politics of the choice and more about its effect on our prosperity and freedoms."

ALLAN STEWART, the Scottish Office minister for industry accused of brandishing a pickaxe at a roads protester, is affectionately known among Scottish Office staff as 'The Beast of Eastwood'.

He looks more like an Edwardian preacher than a politician. His over-riding feature is a pair of long white sideburns that make him appear intimidating and belie his convivial personality.

Mr Stewart, 52, entered

Parliament in 1979 as the Conservative MP for East Renfrewshire and has won three subsequent elections. He has been the MP for Eastwood in Strathclyde since 1983, after a redrawing of the boundaries. Eastwood is a tiny Tory oasis in a largely Labour region and his supporters were surprised when he turned in an increased Conservative majority of 11,688 at the last election.

He is considered a good

constituency MP and is sometimes criticised for putting Eastwood before his duties as a minister. He describes his recreations in *Who's Who* as "bridge" and "hedgehogs" but his friends say he is not prickly, more the Mr Tiggy-winkle of the Scottish Office.

He lacks the aristocratic background of many of his colleagues but sees himself as a natural successor to the suave Scottish Secretary, Ian Lang, a close friend of John

Major, who is tipped for promotion.

How the pick-axe wielding incident will affect his career hopes remain to be seen but last night the political storm brewing over the incident did not appear to be subsiding.

His current portfolio includes industry and local government, and friends say he is on rattling good form, a man at ease with his position.

Minister accused, page 1



Security guards at the Pollok Castle Estate in Glasgow, where the incident involving Mr Stewart happened

The minister who loves hedgehogs

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT



Queen Sonja with tiara

Jewel gang removed royal tiara

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

JEWELLERY belonging to Queen Sonja of Norway appears to have been the target of the armed robbers who struck as it was being collected from Garrards in London to be taken to Heathrow Airport.

Police said the gang escaped with seven pieces of jewellery belonging to Queen Sonja, including a £200,000 tiara. The robbers struck as two Garrards guards let themselves into the building off Regent Street on Sunday morning before catching a plane. The getaway car was found near Hutton Garden, where an unscrupulous jeweller could break up the pieces for the individual stones.

The tiara was left to Queen Sonja by her mother-in-law, Queen Maud, and had been in her family since 1896. It was sent to London with other pieces of personal jewellery for repair. Yesterday Garrard put the value of the tiara at about £200,000 but sources in Oslo suggested it could be worth more.

Correction

A report (January 31) incorrectly stated that Rosslyn Chapel was in Kirkcaldy, Fife, rather than Roslin, Midlothian. We apologise for the error.

Ministers dig in

Continued from page 1

expected to be about the current inflation rate of 2.8 per cent. The awards for doctors and nurses are also likely to prove controversial because they will mark the first step towards local pay bargaining. Part of the increase for these groups will be fixed nationally, but part will have to be determined through locally negotiated settlements with the largely autonomous NHS trusts.

But as the argument continued yesterday, school governors were told that plans to stage mass resignations or set illegal budgets in protest would backfire on the pupils and staff.

Faced with the prospect of making teachers redundant and raising class sizes, some governing bodies are threatening to cut the teaching week, while others plan to set deficit budgets or resign en masse. But Walter Ulrich, spokesman for the National Association of Governors and Managers, said: "Local authorities will be obliged to take over a school's affairs, and they will act more harshly

than any governors. An authority is not going to indulge in financial brinkmanship: it will plan sufficient cuts to make the budget balance." The association's strategy is to put pressure on the Government to increase funding next year.

Graham Lane, who chairs the education committee of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said: "Hard-pressed school governors have our sympathy and support. But the support we can give them does not include more cash, because the Government will not let us."

Right-wing Tories have made clear that they want a tough line on public spending to create room for pre-election tax cuts.

Head teachers and governors also urged the Government to reconsider its refusal to fund the award. David Hart, the General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said in a letter to Mrs Shephard: "Teachers are entitled to a fair and reasonable pay award, but not at the expense of hard-pressed school budgets."

Nolan conflict

Continued from page 1

change a system that is clear and fair." He added: "It is outrageous that allegations have been made against people who have come into politics to serve and have then gone into business."

The Government's view was reinforced in correspondence between the Nolan committee and Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, which was published yesterday.

Answering a question about why ministers had been excluded from the rules governing civil servants and whether the distinction was still valid, Sir Robin says: "Ministers generally lose office abruptly, with limited severance payments and no immediate pension. It would be unreasonable to restrain them from returning to, or taking up, private employment."

He goes on to say: "Advice is given to ministers about outside appointments but it is left to their discretion which appointments to take up, and what interval to allow, after leaving government." Sir Robin

suggests that the system is working satisfactorily and has been endorsed by governments of different complexions. "In almost all cases there is some gap between ministers leaving office and taking up outside business appointments," he says.

The Cabinet Secretary will give verbal evidence, alongside Mr Hunt, before the Nolan committee today.

Quango rules, page 10
Leading article, page 10

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Film-makers join race for the life and times of Nixon



Nixon: resigned in disgrace

By ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE race to produce the definitive film biography of President Richard Nixon has started in Hollywood with stars such as Sir Anthony Hopkins and Tom Hanks tipped for the lead role in rival productions.

Sir Anthony, who is in America to accept an award from the Los Angeles branch of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts tomorrow, is understood to have held several discussions with the writer-director Oliver Stone about starring in a film biography of the disgraced President.

The film, called *Nixon*, opens with the Watergate burglary and then flashes back to various events

in the President's life, including his childhood in Orange County, his early California campaigns and his use of television throughout his career such as in his famous "Checkers" speech.

Sir Anthony was originally reluctant to undertake the role because of other film commitments. This summer he is due to start filming another "biopic", *Surviving Picasso*, in which he takes the lead role as the artist in his later years.

According to the film industry magazine, *The Hollywood Reporter*, the actor is reconsidering the Nixon role after seeing Stone's revisions to the script. Bob Palmer, Sir Anthony's US publicist, confirmed that discussions were in progress, but declined to comment further. *Nixon* will be Mr Stone's second work about a US president. His 1991 film, *JFK*, which starred Kevin Costner as a Southern lawyer inquiring into the assassination of President Kennedy, won Oscars for cinematography and editing.

Less than a year after President Nixon's death in April 1994, two other Hollywood companies are also planning films based on the life of the only American head of state to resign from office under threat of impeachment.

HBO, the leading US production company, is developing a feature-length television film with a screenplay by Robert Bolt, writer of the 1965 classic *Doctor Zhivago*. A spokesman for HBO, which is a partner in Anglia

Television's film production company, hopes to involve Sir David Frost as producer of the movie.

Sir David, who conducted a series of television interviews with President Nixon in 1976 and 1977, two years after he left office, said: "We have a number of projects in development. One does indeed concern the life of Richard Nixon, but, unfortunately that is all I can say at the moment."

A third film, *The Passion of Richard Nixon*, which concentrates heavily on Nixon's childhood and early career, is also in development. Nick Wechsler, a co-producer on *The Passion*, said that he was waiting to see what Mr Stone was doing with his film before starting on his. According to the *Hollywood Reporter*, the

actor Tom Hanks, who starred in *Forest Gump*, has expressed an interest in the lead role.

Mr Wechsler, whose Hollywood production company Addis-Wechsler picked up *The Passion of Richard Nixon* after Hollywood Pictures, the Walt Disney-owned company, abandoned it, said: "Tom Hanks did not commit himself to the film, but he was certainly interested and asked to speak to the writer."

American film producers clearly thought that a film about Nixon would attract worldwide audiences. "Nixon's life is one of the most fascinating in recent history. The events that made him veer off are fascinating. So is the complexity of his psychology and his emotional make-up."



Hopkins: considering role

Four weeks of language coaching and last-minute practice enhance visit to children's hospital

Princess delights Tokyo hosts with speech in Japanese

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

THE Princess of Wales started her three-day working trip to Japan with a visit to disabled and terminally ill children at a Tokyo hospital, where she delighted her audience by delivering her lunchtime speech partly in Japanese. The Princess had been coached by a Japanese woman in London.

During her visit to the National Children's Hospital the Princess also expressed her sympathy for the victims of the Kobe earthquake. She said in Japanese: "I am delighted to be here. Last time I was here was four years ago and I am pleased to have the opportunity to visit this hospital today."

Palace aides said the Princess had received coaching from a Japanese woman, "who had been introduced through a friend", for four weeks before the visit. Her unnamed tutor also recorded a tape — used by the Princess on the flight from London — for the trickier aspects of pronunciation and intonation.

Although Japanese speakers present described her Japanese as "hard to under-

stand", the Princess's effort clearly impressed Japanese guests at the luncheon, who included representatives of the hospital and the Peter Pan Children's Fund. The Princess, wearing a demure pastel-pink bouclé suit and sporting her conventional hairstyle, toured the hospital, which was set up in 1965 as the first specialised centre for treatment of sick children in Japan. It has a close working relationship with the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, London.

The Princess was accompanied by Dr Noboru Kobayashi, president of the hospital, who had met her during her first visit to the hospital in 1990, when she accompanied the Prince of Wales to Japan to attend the enthronement of Emperor Akihito.

Japanese interest in the Princess's visit yesterday, however, vastly differed from the frenzied adoration showered on the royal couple in 1990. About 150 Japanese people waited in the cold to catch a glimpse of the Princess. In 1990, more than

100,000 lined the streets.

However, Masaru Nashimoto, a journalist who has covered British royalty in Japan and Britain, said: "Japanese people are still very interested in Princess Diana. First, this is not an official visit — it's much quieter than 1990. It's not just because the earthquake has taken up so much media attention: people feel sorry for the Princess, because her husband is involved with another woman."

Although written Japanese is notoriously difficult to master, the spoken word is easier. Professor J.A. Stockwin, Nissan Professor of Japanese Studies at Oxford University, praised the Princess's efforts. "It will be a great hit in Japan where she is already extremely popular with ordinary people for her personality and aura."

He added: "Spoken Japanese has a great number of vowel-consonant alterations but it has clear, simple vowel sounds like Italian. It can be written in our alphabet and easily read from a prepared text. The spoken language is really not that difficult."



The Princess of Wales meeting a patient at the National Children's Hospital in Tokyo, which has links with Great Ormond Street

Bride in sea death left first husband

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE British bride buried at sea after she died on a yacht in the Indian Ocean had eloped with a mutual friend after deserting her first husband seven years ago, he said yesterday.

Fred Lilly, 74, never knew what became of his wife after she vanished in 1988, leaving a "Dear John" note. Mr Lilly divorced her in 1993 on the ground of desertion, 42 years after their wedding. This weekend, he received the first news of his wife since she left him. He learnt from newspapers that she had washed away on the stricken yacht as it drifted for two months.

Mr Lilly recognised the yachtsman who buried her at sea: Ashok Baljoresai, who married Pamela in Singapore in August 1994. "He says they met when they were working at a hospital in London but I believe he is the same Ashok who befriended us when we went to Mauritius on holiday," Mr Lilly said.

Mr Lilly, a retired electrical engineer, and his wife used to spend every November in Mauritius, always accompanied by Ashok. "He used to be around every day, bit of a nuisance really, I thought he admired Pam because she was pretty."

When Pamela left in Au-

gust 1988 Mr Lilly began a new life in West Mersea, Essex. "I put her out of my mind until now and made a new life for myself but this has brought it flooding back. I'm really choked that this has happened to my dear old ex-wife."

Mr Baljoresai, a Mauritian-born British passport holder, moved to England in 1967. His ex-wife Pamela still lives in Essex. At 53, he is considerably younger than Pamela, who was 65 when she died. He was rescued by a Russian cargo ship and taken to Australia, where police gave him permission to leave after being satisfied with his account of how his wife died.



Baljoresai: buried his English wife at sea

Thief used car as murder weapon

By PAUL WILKINSON

A MAN aged 77 who tried to stop youths stealing his car died after the driver reversed into him. The impact was so severe that Robert Inchliffe was carried for 30ft spread-eagled against the car body.

Police were stunned by the callous nature of the incident. Detective Inspector Ray Mallon said: "These two youths must be caught and punished for this evil crime. It is much more serious than normal, because the driver on this occasion has used the vehicle as a weapon and killed an innocent man. We are treating it as murder."

Mr Inchliffe, of Hartlepool, Cleveland, died early yesterday from multiple injuries. The incident happened after he and his wife Ethel, 72, had returned to their retirement bungalow at about 10.30pm on Saturday after a night of ballroom dancing.

They left the keys in the car while he went to open the garage, and when he returned moments later a youth was sitting at the wheel with the engine on. Mr Mallon said: "Mr Inchliffe began shouting at the occupant and tried to open the door but it was locked. The thief stalled the car and it rolled forward, leaving Mr Inchliffe at the rear. His wife came out and

began banging on the front of the car. The driver accelerated in reverse at such speed that there was a screech of tyres. The car hit Mr Inchliffe with such force he was lifted off his feet and was carried on the rear of the vehicle for about 30ft before he fell from the car."

The driver was then joined by another youth who got into the passenger side. The vehicle raced off leaving Mr Inchliffe on the floor behind. We think this was an opportunistic theft but what really concerns us is the amount of force this youth used to escape. It appears he had a good idea Mr Inchliffe was behind him but he still accelerated right down to multiple injuries. Leaving this old man spread-eagled across the back of the car."

Mr Inchliffe, a retired miner, had two children and seven grandchildren. Mr Mallon said: "He has been described as a particularly nice and genuine man who was well-liked by all who knew him. He was an active man who enjoyed old-time dancing, gardening and working on his car."

The two thieves, aged between 15 and 20, were wearing dark clothing. The car, a maroon Ford Fiesta, was found abandoned about quarter of a mile away.

Crazed gunman shot father of four

By PAUL WILKINSON

A GUNMAN "crazed with drink and drugs" who shot and killed a man with a sawn-off shotgun to steal his car was jailed for life yesterday. The killer and two companions had earlier terrorised a housing estate as they battered on doors in search of transport.

David Fields's victim, Peter Homer, 45, a father of four, died eight days after he was shot at close range in the stomach. In the same incident, a disabled resident of the estate at Coultby Newham, Cleveland, was beaten and two others were robbed.

Fields, 29, was jailed for life by Teesside Crown Court after admitting murdering Mr Homer. Peter Walton, 28, was given 14 years and Joanne McDougall, 22, four years. They had admitted manslaughter.

The court was told that at 5.30 am on December 21 1993, the three had met at a

drugs party near their homes in Middlesbrough. They took a taxi to Coultby Newham for another party but had the wrong address and agreed to steal a car to get back. Guy Whitburn QC, for the prosecution, said Fields and Walton forced their way into the home of Mrs Jane Fowler, 45, a disabled woman, and demanded her car keys. When she said she did not have a car, Fields smashed her in the face twice with the shotgun butt, breaking her nose and cheekbone.

They went to the house of Mr Homer's son Craig and his wife Claire, who they woke by banging repeatedly on the door. Craig Homer rang his father who arrived within minutes with June, his wife, in the family Rover. McDougall ordered Mrs Homer from the car and got in the back. Walton jumped in the driver's seat. Fields approached Mr Homer and pulled out the shotgun. Mr Whitburn said: "Mrs

Homer screamed, 'Oh my God, please leave him alone', at which point, and at point-blank range, he shot him."

The three drove off in the Rover but crashed after a few minutes. They then broke into and ransacked another house and, after threatening two neighbours with the shotgun, loaded property into one of their cars. Walton and McDougall were arrested within 48 hours but Fields, who later claimed to be aiming at Mr Homer's foot, remained at large for nearly three weeks.

Mr Justice Laws told them: "Crazed with drink and drugs, you embarked that December night on an horrific and nauseating rampage of terror. It left a disabled woman beaten and terrified, an innocent man, whose car you robbed, dead, shot in front of his wife, another house was comprehensively ransacked and another man robbed."

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Fire service reforms 'could save 300 lives'

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

HALF the 600 deaths and 12,000 injuries caused by fire in England and Wales each year could be prevented by an overhaul of old-fashioned regulations and more attention to prevention, according to a report published today.

The fire service is hampered by inflexible conditions of employment, high levels of retirement for "ill health" and a looming financial crisis over pensions. In the *Line of Fire* study, The Audit Commission study finds that only about 5 per cent of a firefighter's time at work is spent responding to fires. It recommends that more time should be spent on fire prevention, which should be made a statutory responsibility for the country's 54 brigades.

Andrew Foster, Controller of the Audit Commission, said: "The service is anachronistic and long overdue for an overhaul. It is not the performance of the firefighters that is at stake but the whole system of risk assessment and the financing of the services. We need change to bring about a fire service for the 21st century."

The report says that the £1.25 billion-a-year service is hampered by a framework which emphasises responding to fires rather than preventing

them: a risk categorisation that takes account primarily of building type and not of developments in building construction; and response times based on historical precedent.

"The overall picture is one of failure by the nation to respond to fire, a problem that each year accounts for 600 lives and costs almost £5 billion," the report says.

It finds that categorisation of areas of risk and response times for appliances have not changed for 37 years and operate on a framework prepared in 1936. Attendance times and the number of appliances sent out to fires are based on four categories of risk, ranging from main shopping and business districts to rural areas. But 54 per cent of serious fires occur in C risk districts, comprising post-war residential areas, compared with 5 per cent in A risk areas, which include commercial centres and industrial estates.

The report says the service nationally is facing financial calamity over the funding of pensions, with estimates that by the year 2007 a quarter of the annual budget will go to meet pension costs.

It recommends more flexible shift patterns, a review of the rank and associated pay structure, and greater monitoring of sickness levels and retirements on health grounds. Between 1985 and 1992 only 29 per cent of firefighters retired normally, whereas 71 per cent took early retirement, of whom 49 per cent went on the ground of ill health and 22 per cent on the ground of injury while on duty.

Ken Cameron, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, said he welcomed the recognition of the increase in the service's workload against a background of serious underfunding and no increase in staffing.

□ *In the Line of Fire* (Audit Commission: Stationery Office; £10)



Foster: concerned at early retirements



An archaeologist examines one of the timbers preserved under a layer of peat

Sewer engineers stumble on Neolithic forest

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

REMAINS of a 6,000-year-old forest have been uncovered by Thames Water engineers digging new sewers in east London. Large pieces of oak and yew have been recovered from the excavation in good condition, protected by a layer of peat.

Construction work at the site in East Ham has been temporarily stopped so that archaeologists can study the remains. Lawrence Pontin, an archaeological adviser to English Heritage, said that the find confirms antiquarian records of the remains of an ancient forest in the peat levels. Similar finds were made when the Royal group of docks were constructed and suggest the existence of a forest on the north bank of the Thames east of the River Lea.

"This is a discovery of national interest," Mr Pontin said. "The remains will help us to build up a much better picture of what the area was like all those years ago."

Two methods will be used to date the timber pieces, which are more than 12ft long and almost 18in in diameter. Radiocarbon dating will be supplemented in the case of the oak samples by analysis of the growth rings, whose pattern can be compared to established sequences of rings from else-

where in Europe. No such sequence exists for yew, though the finds may help to establish one. Mr Pontin said. Newham Museum Service and the Museum of London Environmental Service will do the analysis.

Mr Pontin said that the original forest died when conditions changed. "It got wetter, either because of increased rainfall or because of flooding," he said. "The trees died, the soil became more acid, and they were preserved by a layer of peat."

Although the dating has not yet been done, Mr Pontin is confident that the timber goes back to the Neolithic age 6,000 years ago. "What we are looking at here is the base of the peat sequence," he said. "Then the area was covered by a large forest, before conditions changed, the trees died and the peat began to build up."

The Thames Water engineers who made the find were working on an £8 million scheme for more than two kilometres of sewer tunnels in East Ham. Stuart Windsor, project manager for Thames Water, said: "When planning projects, we always consult records to ensure that sites of historical or environmental interest are not disturbed unnecessarily. In the tunnelling business you learn to expect the unexpected."

Gummer urged to rescue ugliest nature site

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A 12,000-year-old peat bog known as Britain's ugliest nature reserve will be made into a rubbish tip unless the Environment Secretary intervenes, environmentalists said yesterday.

The proposal to make Red Moss in Bolton into a refuse site has been drafted by the local council in its unitary development plan. Last month the area was listed as a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) by English Nature, wildlife adviser to the Government.

Environmentalists, who are

urging John Gummer to act in line with national and European wildlife rules, said the scheme would destroy the site. Simon Festing, of Friends of the Earth, said yesterday: "At first sight Red Moss could only be described as grim. Bounded by a motorway, a railway, abandoned industrial workshops and a rubbish tip, it could be the ugliest wildlife site in the country. A closer look, however, shows that it supports an intricate system of wildlife including nine species of sphagnum moss, dragonflies and the long-eared owl.

Snipe and teal breed on the open moorland."

Peat bogs, natural sites which have greatly declined because of drainage and harvesting, were described as "important on a global scale" by the Government after the Rio Earth summit. They are also protected under the habitat directive of the European Union.

Bolton Metropolitan Council said yesterday that a government inspector had described the site as degraded, polluted and barren. "He said that the importance of finding



A site for disposal outweighed its ecological interest. The council will be objecting to its listing as an SSSI, a spokesman said.

The Secretary of State yesterday launched Going For

Green, an initiative that aims to encourage people to adopt lifestyles that cause less pollution. A committee, which includes Sir David Attenborough, will advise the Government on schemes to help households to reduce their waste and conserve resources.

Friends of the Earth said the initiative could help to save the Red Moss bog. A survey by the Department of the Environment in 1993 showed that Bolton recycled only 3 per cent of its waste, and Friends of the Earth said increased recycling would reduce the need for more refuse sites.

Bombs found on animal lorries

By MICHAEL HORNSEY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

FOUR incendiary bombs have been found attached to lorries used by a haulage company specialising in the transport of livestock, police said yesterday. The devices, which are presumed to have been planted by animal rights extremists, failed to ignite and were safely dismantled by an Army bomb disposal unit.

An employee of the firm at Billing, near Northampton, raised the alarm on Sunday morning after he saw suspicious-looking objects. Police evacuated a house and pub next to the yard where the lorries were parked while they searched the premises.

The incident came a day after the delivery of letter bombs to field sports enthusiasts elsewhere in Northamptonshire and to a farm in North Yorkshire involved in livestock exports.

Police fear the bombs could presage a campaign of violence by animal rights fanatics after the death of Jill Phipps, the woman crushed beneath the wheels of a livestock lorry outside Coventry airport last week.

Seven protesters who were arrested after storming the Palace of Westminster on Sunday and unfurling banners in remembrance of Ms Phipps were released yesterday without charge. The group sailed down the Thames from Putney in a motorised inflatable dinghy and scaled the embankment wall with a ladder to reach the Houses of Parliament via the members' terrace.

Peter Atkinson, Tory MP for Hexham, yesterday defended his part in a Tory filibuster last Friday which scuppered a Labour-sponsored private members' Bill banning the export of calves.

In retaliation, about a dozen demonstrators climbed on to the roof of Mr Atkinson's home in the village of Birtley, Northumberland, on Sunday afternoon and threw tiles to the ground. Neither he nor any other member of his family was in the house at the time. "The sponsors of the Bill know perfectly well that Britain cannot stop what is a lawful trade," he said.

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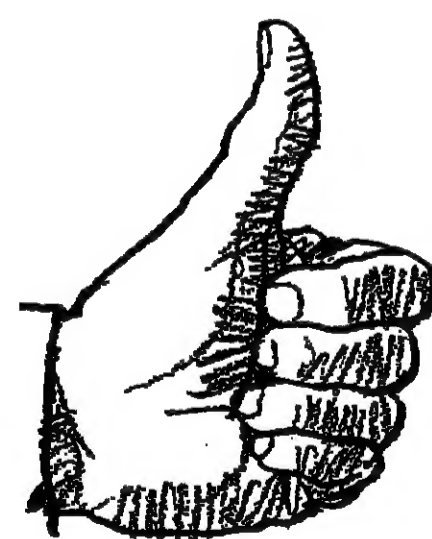
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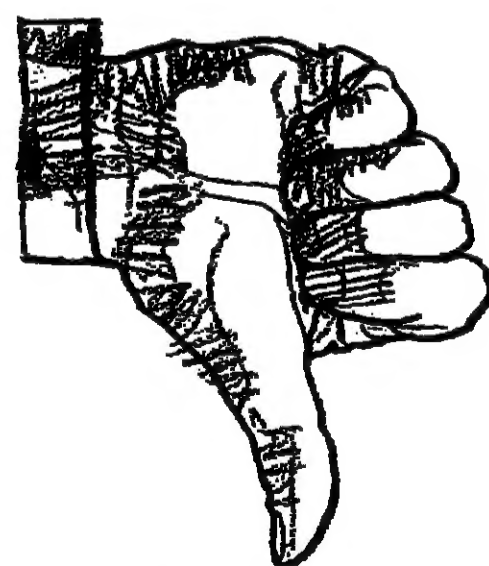


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Solicitor trampled by cows wins fight for compensation

BY FRANCES GIBBS
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A SOLICITOR who was attacked and trampled by a herd of cows has won £45,000 damages in what is thought to be the first case of its kind. David Birch was awarded the damages against the insurers of a farm in Northamptonshire after a three-year fight for compensation.

Mr Birch, 45, by luck an insurance litigation solicitor, was walking his two dogs — a Labrador and a border collie — on a gated road (a public highway with gates across it) close to the village of Winwick in September 1991.

He said: "A breed of Charolais cows, with their calves which were nearly fully grown, just over 30 cattle in all, were grazing at the side of the field and they took an interest in my two dogs, which were on leads."

The cows had come over to "eyeball" his dogs. "They were facing up to them and others came round behind me. I thought, 'if I let go, the dogs will run amok and cause havoc'. The next thing I knew I had been knocked over from behind."

Mr Birch, a partner in Wragge & Co, a Birmingham law firm, was repeatedly knocked over and trampled by the herd. "I thought I was going to die," he said yesterday. "Every time I stood up, they knocked me down. One even tried to roll on me."

He was eventually rescued and spent four weeks in hospital.



Birch: wanted to make others aware

tal with broken ribs, a cracked knee, dislocated collar bone and damaged wrist. "Hardly anything wasn't damaged." A further 10 days in hospital followed later when he developed potentially fatal blood clots.

Mr Birch decided to pursue a claim with the insurers of Winwick Grange Farm, National Farmers Union Mutual, who resisted the claim on the grounds that the accident was not foreseeable and that he was responsible in that he had the dogs on leads.

The case came to Birmingham County Court two weeks ago. Mr Birch said: "Quite apart from securing some compensation for my personal losses, I wanted to obtain judgment so that if this misfortune happened to anyone else, at least they would be aware of this ruling and insurers would

not be able to contest a claim next time round."

Susan Dearden, a solicitor with Wragge & Co who helped Mr Birch with his claim, said: "We are not aware of any other cases like this going to court, although we are aware of other attacks on people with dogs. A woman was reported to have been killed in 1992 by cattle."

She added: "I think it is very important that the public are made aware of the dangers inherent in walking across fields containing cattle, particularly when accompanied by dogs. There is a general assumption that cows are harmless. David's case, and others, clearly show that they are not although the trigger factor does seem to be the presence of dogs."

Mr Birch had nearly been killed in the attack and other walkers were at risk unless farmers warned pedestrians and moved cattle to fields not crossed by public paths or roads, she said.



Dean Scott, left, and Ray found driving their father's car was child's play

Toddlers take 150mph car for a quick spin

BY PAUL WILKINSON

TWO joyriders who disarmed three security systems to drive off in a high-powered sports car were discovered by police to be the owner's sons, aged two and three. They had decided to give the family cat a trip round the block.

Dean Scott and his younger brother Ray had travelled 20 yards down the road in the 150mph Toyota Supra when they were stopped. They usually do their driving in a battery-operated car.

While their parents slept the boys had slipped downstairs at the family home in Darlington, Co Durham, and taken the car keys from a high shelf after climbing on to a coffee table.

They ran out to the car parked at the curb and used the electronic beam on the key fob to switch off the alarm and unlock the car. Next the boys turned off the fuel cut-out and an immobiliser before starting the engine.

A neighbour who heard the noise and saw the car moving raised the alarm. The boys'

father, Edward Scott, 29, said: "The first I knew about it was when a policeman came in the bedroom and woke me up, asking 'Do you know these young joyriders?'"

He said his sons must have evaded the car's security features "from memory after watching me. It had moved maybe 20 yards. They must have put it in gear themselves. They had wanted to take the cat Calypso for a ride around the block. When you split the boys up they can be as good as angels, but once they are together they are a real handful, very mischievous."

"I think I'll have to get a burglar alarm on the house so the kids can't break out. Now we've stressed to them how naughty they were, hopefully they won't do it again."

Inspector John Walker said: "Thankfully it has all ended harmlessly and we can see the funny side, but the consequences could have been very serious if they had travelled any distance."

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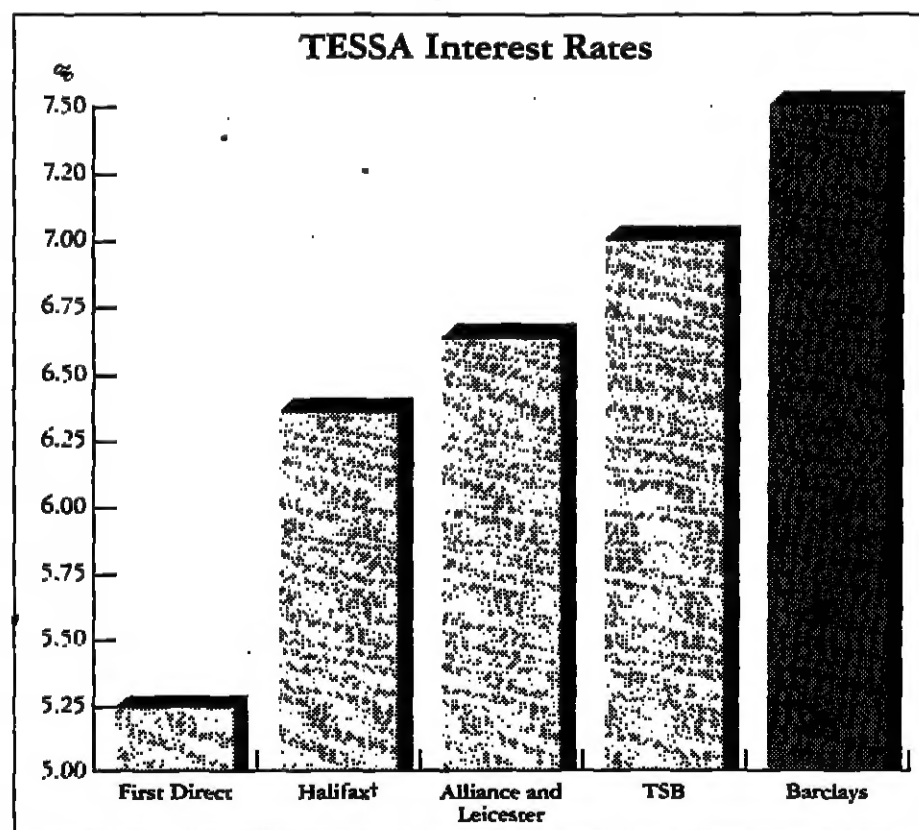
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In the Macallan Pairs Zia had this unpleasant decision. He held:

♠10 ♥AKJ9874 ♦AK72 ♣6

At Game All his right-hand opponent open Two Clubs, either an Acol Two Clubs or a diamond pre-empt (they allow that sort of bid in the grown-ups' game). What action would you take? Zia passed and this was how the auction developed:

W	N	E	S
Robson	Sharrif	Forrester	Zia
—	—	2♣	Pass
2♠ (1)	2♠	Pass	3♠ (2)
Dble	3♠	Pass	6♥ (3)
Dble	All pass		

- 1 To play in Two Diamonds if East has the weak type.
- 2 Somewhat stuck for a bid — East's pass showed he had the weak type.
- 3 No doubt losing patience — it's difficult to see an intelligent way of proceeding from here.

This was the full deal

Dealer East Game all. IMPs

♠AJ87654	♥10	♦83	♣1074
♠KQ32	♥Q832	♦5	♠AKQ9
♠10	♥AKJ9874	♦AK72	♣8

When Zia emerged from the bushes with Six Hearts he was promptly mugged by Robson, who doubled and made the excellent lead of a trump for down three and +800.

The trouble with passing on hands like Zia's on the first round is that frequently you have to make a wild guess later. Admittedly, if Zia had bid Four Hearts over Two Clubs he might have been missing a slam, but nevertheless that strikes me as a more practical action.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Fide matches

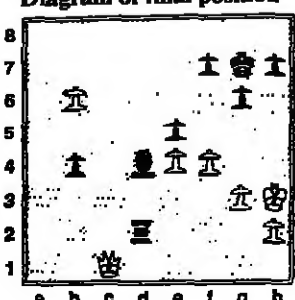
The semi-finals of the Fide world championship started yesterday in Sanghi Nagar, India. Gata Kamsky (United States) is facing Valery Salov (Russia) in one match, while Anatoly Karpov (Russia) is challenged by the Belorussian grandmaster Boris Gelfand in the other. In the first round, Kamsky adjourned with a significant advantage, while Gelfand drew with Karpov. Karpov is the clear favourite in his contest but his opponent is not likely to be overawed. This 1992 game demonstrates Gelfand's capabilities.

White: Gelfand
Black: Karpov
Moscow 1992

Queen's Indian Defence
1 d4 Nf6
2 c4 e6
3 Nf3 b6
4 a3 Bb7
5 Nc3 d5
6 Qc2 Nbd7
7 cxd5 Bxd5
8 Nxd5 Bb7
9 e4 c6
10 Bb5 Rb8
11 Bxc6 Qc7
12 Q5 Bxc6
13 Nd4

14 Nxc6	Nb8
15 Bc3	Bc5
16 Rc1	Qxc6
17 dxc6	O-O
18 O-O	Bxc3
19 b4	Bxc1
20 Qxc6	Rc7
21 Qa4	g6
22 Rd1	Rfc8
23 g3	Rf6
24 Rd7	Bb2
25 Kg2	Ng7
26 f4	Bc3
27 Qd1	a5
28 Rxc7	Rxc7
29 Qc8	Rc4
30 Qd3	b5
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Diagram of final position



Winning Move, page 44

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Turner Prize sculptor says his statue with a 169ft span will bring life and activity to North East

A towering £300,000 steel angel splits town

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SPENDING £300,000 on a sculpture when there are holes in the road and people sleeping in street doorways has divided the residents of Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

That the sculptor is Antony Gormley, winner of the 1994 Turner Prize and an outstanding contemporary British artist, has done little to placate objectors. Although planning permission has been granted to allow a 63ft steel angel with a 169ft wingspan to be sited near the gates of the town, the dispute continues.

More than 4,000 residents signed a petition against the statue being erected, according to Noel Rippeth, the Liberal Democrat who has led Gateshead Borough Council's opposition to the sculpture. "And that was on just two Saturday mornings. People were actually queuing to sign it." A telephone poll conducted by a local newspaper had shown 250 people in favour of the sculpture and 1,219 against.

One of his main objections is the statue's size and that it might be a dangerous distraction for motorists on the A1. Its design was "too reminiscent of large statues used by totalitarian states from time immemorial". One local paper likened it to Albert Speer's visualisation for a statue of Icarus to celebrate the Luftwaffe's crack Richthofen Squadron.

Although commissioned by the council, there is no council money involved and much of the funding comes from regional and national arts bodies. Mr Rippeth said: "Wherever the money's coming from, it could have been better spent."

However, among supporters of the statue, Pat Conaty, a Labour councillor, described it as a symbol of peace not power, and others spoke of how it could put Gateshead on the arts map.

Gormley, 44, famous for casting his own body into sculptures, reacted to the opposition in Gateshead by speaking of "this built-in genetic resistance that the English race has to anything called art. I don't know where it comes from." He added: "Speer was an extraordinary architect. I didn't know he did sculpture as well. We are both interested in reinventing the angel."

Beyond that, he said, there

were no comparisons to be made. Most surprising of all, though, is that objections were voiced before anyone had actually seen the sculpture, the model for which is shown publicly for the first time today in *The Times*.

Gormley said people had seen only a thumb-nail sketch, which he had drawn while on the train to Gateshead. "It's extraordinary to me that people would rather have nothing than something that brings life and activity to the region," he said.

Alan Sykes, spokesman for Northern Arts, spoke of the sculpture being an important landmark for northern England as a whole. Its construction would also create work.

Sandy Nairne, director of public services at the Tate Gallery, expressed surprise at the reactions. He spoke of being struck by the way the sculpture, imbued with a spirituality, seemed to represent a sense of the region. "It is a tremendously strong symbol about nature and life, life in

relation to nature, a symbol of the power of the North East. Its huge wingspan, suggesting the idea of flight, seems to represent human achievement and aspiration."

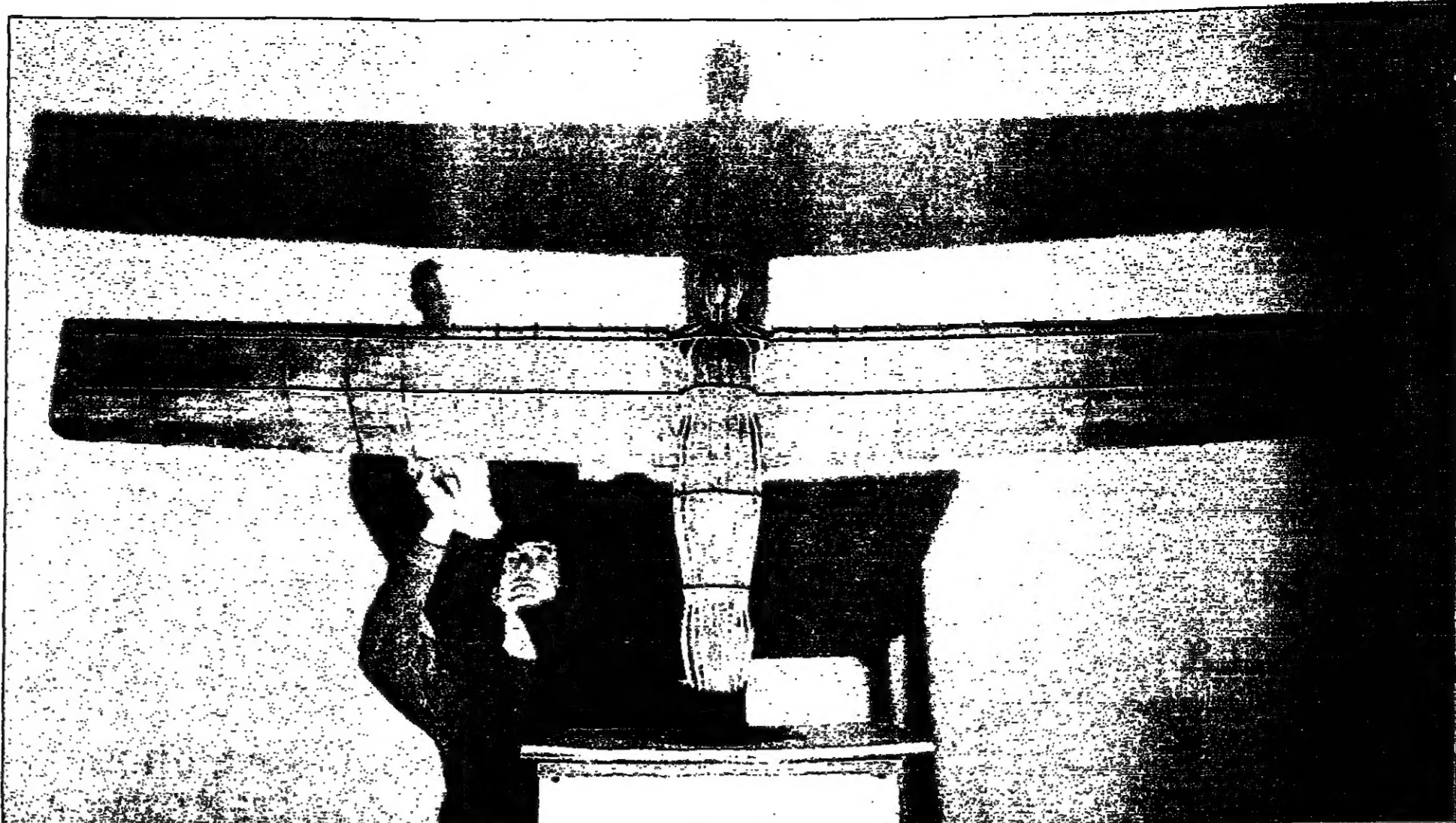
For Gormley, history is repeating itself. Only a few years ago he divided the people of Leeds with his plans for a 120ft brick man. How-

ever, the council lost heart "as a result of a similar campaign of misinformation". That project, he added, was "sleeping but not dead".

Ove Arup, the structural engineers, will be offering specialist advice on the installation of the sculpture, ensuring that it can withstand the fiercest winds. Gormley's an-

gel will form part of the Gateshead council's contribution to "1996, Year of the Visual Arts", a celebration of the role of the arts in the North. The council is also intending to convert the disused Balc Flour Mills that dominate the south bank of the Tyne into an international gallery for the visual arts.

Michael Powell



Antony Gormley with a bronze model of the angel. Gateshead council has granted planning permission for the 63ft-high sculpture but many residents oppose it

Mawhinney promotes safer driving with insurance discount for young



Mawhinney: youth drive

By JONATHAN PRYNN
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE Government has launched a campaign to reduce the annual carnage of young drivers on Britain's roads with an offer of insurance discounts for newly qualified motorists who take extra driving lessons after their tests.

Under the Pass Plus scheme, announced yesterday by Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, new drivers will be entitled to insurance premium reductions of

up to £100 in their first year of driving. People who sign up for the scheme within a year of passing their test will receive six lessons concentrating on areas not tested by the examiner, including motorway driving, night driving and coping with bad weather conditions. It will also teach courtesy and consideration for other road users. Although the Pass Plus scheme is aimed mainly at the young it is open to drivers of all ages.

Drivers under 21 have borne the brunt of recent rises in car insur-

ance premiums largely because of their poor accident record. They are four times as likely to make an insurance claim than a 40-year-old.

"There is a widespread recognition that the first few years of driving are quite clearly the most dangerous years," Dr Mawhinney said.

More than 1,000 people a year in Britain are killed in accidents involving drivers aged 21 or under, about a quarter of all road deaths. Driving accidents account for three quarters of all accidental deaths among 16 to 19-year-olds. Pass

Plus, supported by more than 20 insurers and two brokers, will cost drivers between £70 and £100, effectively wiping out the one-off saving on the insurance premiums. However, the Government argues that taking the course makes drivers less prone to accidents early in their driving careers and therefore more likely to qualify for a no-claims bonus.

About 6,000 approved driving instructors have been signed up to the scheme. At least one insurer is offering a refund of the cost of the

lessons. Typical savings will be £80 to £90 on fully comprehensive policies and £35 to £40 on third party, fire and theft cover. But for drivers in the highest risk category, the savings could be much larger. A 17-year-old newly qualified male Ford Escort driver living in Birmingham, for example, would see his premium slashed by £464 from £2,330 to £1,866 if he completed the Pass Plus course.

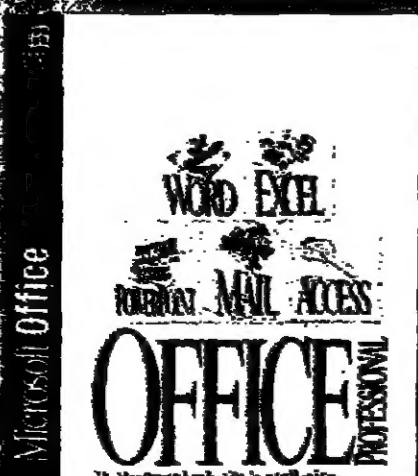
Pass Plus is the first in a series of initiatives planned by the Government to improve the safety record

of young drivers and remove the scourge of "boy racers" from Britain's roads.

The other three are a programme of road safety education for the 16-plus age group; an extension of the theory element of the driving test and a private member's Bill to require newly qualified drivers to retake their tests once they accumulate six penalty points.

The Bill, which was introduced by Michael Clark, a Tory backbench MP, received its second Commons reading last Friday.

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By ROBIN YOUNG

High fees deter dental patients

Higher charges are deterring people from visiting the dentist, a Consumers' Association survey shows. More than a quarter of 1,035 people questioned had not visited a dentist in the past 18 months, the report in *Which? Way to Health* says. Excluding those who had no need to go, 41 per cent claimed the reason was that charges were too high.

Dr Martin Wiseman, of the Department of Health nutrition unit, said: "At any age it is important not to be too fat or too thin. Eating sensibly and keeping active is the best way of achieving this but as we get older being plump is better than being thin."



10-10-77

Officers have been fighting to save the troop, which has been using the horses to patrol gunnery ranges and other areas with difficult terrain. But a spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence said that patrolling in difficult terrain could be done more effectively and more cheaply by motorcycle.

Heart beater
Britain's longest surviving heart transplant patient, Derrick Morris, 60, has decided to retire from his job as a docker at Swansea 15 years after he had the operation at Harefield Hospital, west London.

Drugs hamper epileptics' chance to lead normal life

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

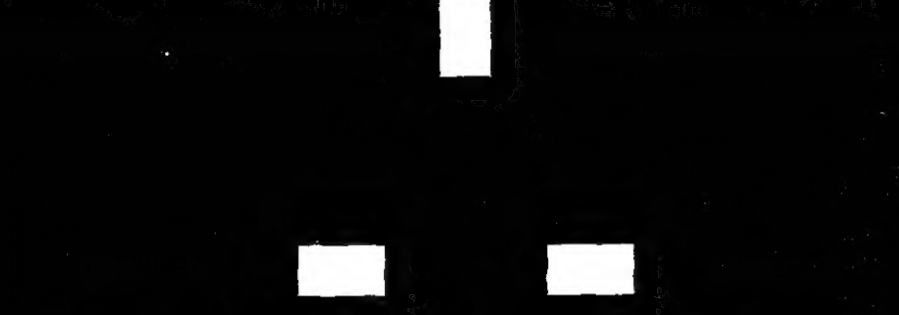
Most of Britain's 350,000 epilepsy sufferers are taking drugs developed up to 20 years ago that make it difficult for more than half to lead an active life. Although the drugs control seizures in up to 80 per cent of patients, the survey found that between a quarter and a half of them complained of side-effects including tiredness, loss of memory, headaches, tremor and dizziness.

Terry O'Leary, chief executive of the association, said: "These results show that people with epilepsy should see their doctor regularly. Their treatment should be reviewed if their seizures are not well-controlled or if they

The survey follows the Health Department's backing for Lamotrigine, a new drug that can be prescribed on its own rather than with a cocktail of the older drugs, causing fewer side effects.



Corporal Karen Portsmouth-Baker says goodbye to Winston, a 19-year-old gelding. Below, the Royal Military Police Mounted Unit at Aldershot in 1912



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Shootout in Gaza adds to pressure on Arafat

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

PALESTINIAN gunmen yesterday ambushed an Israeli tanker convoy inside the autonomous Gaza Strip, killing an Israeli security guard and wounding another after riddling their car with 40 bullets.

The daylight attack posed new difficulties for Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, who is under pressure from Israel for failing to take sufficient security measures against militant opponents of the peace process based in Gaza. The incident occurred as the overcrowded strip remained sealed from Israel in response to the January 22 double-suicide bombing near the resort of Netanya, in which 21 Jews died.

Mr Arafat is due to meet Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, on the Gaza-Israel border on Thursday. He is expected to try to persuade the Israeli leader to end delays in implementing further extensions of the autonomy plan.

Arafat: condemned the gunmen's "dirty work"

Israel has made clear that the PLO will first have to demonstrate that it has Palestinian terrorists in its midst under effective control.

The PLO leader criticised those who carried out yesterday's attack and escaped into an area of Gaza under Palestinian control. "They want to

squeeze the Palestinian people in the corner and to destroy the peace process", he said. "They are playing dirty work against the Palestinian people."

Mordechai Gur, Israel's Deputy Defence Minister, issued a warning within hours of the shooting that if the Palestinian police appointed by Mr Arafat did not take the necessary action to catch the killers, Israel would have to look at the incident "in a very severe way". He implied that Israel would have to consider sending troops back into areas of Gaza they left last May.

The ambush was carried out just before 9am as two Israeli petrol tankers, led by a Palestinian police vehicle, were making a routine trip to petrol stations inside the Gaza Strip. Both Israeli guards, who were driving behind the lorries, were armed with pistols and sub-machineguns.

"I heard a round of shooting," David Ballah, the tanker driver, told Israel Radio. "I turned around and saw a shootout. The guy next to me got out of the vehicle and shot at the terrorists." A Palestinian police officer said that the four PLO policemen in the convoy fired in the air and then rushed towards the Israelis to administer first aid.

Minutes later, Israeli troops and Palestinian police reinforcements began a search of surrounding orange groves. Mr Arafat told Gaza City students only miles from the scene: "These criminal attempts will not pass without punishment, and our patience has its limits." Both Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, and the extreme left-wing Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility.

□ Cairo: Eight Arab countries said in a joint statement yesterday that Middle East peace was incompatible with Israel's refusal of an international inspection of its nuclear arms programme. (Reuters)

Child victims cry out for Rwanda justice

Glenys Kinnock, MEP, calls for genocide trials so Rwandans can return without fear of reprisals

A LITTLE girl with a baby strapped to her back stood on the edge of the circle of children, dancing and singing. She jogged in an attempt to pacify the crying child. She was eight years old, and that day she was in charge of a baby to whom she was not even related.

There were 400 unaccompanied children alone in one refugee camp I visited. They were found by Save the Children and are being cared for by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Unicef has said that 300,000 children have been killed in the war, and the agency is trying to reunite another 80,000 with their families.

There are thousands of Rwandan children who have experienced the trauma of genocide. The ones I saw live in a special compound in Kashesha, home to 50,000 refugees. Some have been forced to take part in unimaginable acts—even the murder of their parents.

One boy of ten fled into the bush when men wielding machetes hacked his younger brothers and sisters to death. He feels guilty because he survived. In the same camp I saw a baby, just a few weeks old, who had been left in a latrine after his birth. I saw other children in neighbouring Burundi, where they had their own murderous conflict



Glenys Kinnock in a refugee camp with Rwandan children, thousands of whom have experienced the trauma of genocide. Unicef estimates that 300,000 children have been killed by the war. The agency is trying to reunite another 80,000 with their families

between Tutsis and Hutus in 1993. Nearly 1,000 families were crammed into an abandoned pharmacy we visited. The children showed all the effects of desperate poverty and severe malnourishment. Their bodies were infested with parasites and they scratched incessantly.

In the medical tents in Burundi, the hard-pressed doctors grappled with patients who have malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS.

It is now imperative that the refugees are made to feel confident about returning home. Inside the country there are probably more than one million displaced people, and considerably more are in Tanzania, Burundi, Zaire and Uganda.

In the camps, members and supporters of the previous Hutu-led Government still strut about peddling propaganda about the dangers of returning home, while the

Rwandan Patriotic Front Government is in control. International inaction is allowing the Hutu army responsible for the genocide to regroup on the borders. We were told that 10,000 militiamen train with them around the camps; we saw men buying and selling guns openly on the outskirts.

The Rwandan Government needs more resources if it is to bring the murderers to justice and ensure security and land

rights for refugees and displaced people. The special prosecutor in Kigali has only six magistrates, and no judges to investigate thousands of cases. They have no vehicles, no typewriters, no paper, not even cameras to register the prisoners' identities. There are no police records. Indeed no police to speak of.

The more time passes, the harder it will be to collect reliable evidence and bring the Hutu zealots to justice.

The 50 European human rights monitors promised last year have not been recruited, let alone deployed. The United Nations Security Council must ensure that funds are committed to that the trial and prosecution of those accused of crimes against humanity can begin. If the refugees are not given the confidence to return soon, dependency on food aid will grow, and the refugee camps will become permanent.

Police chief tackles Soweto revolt

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

AS SOUTH AFRICAN police reach a state of near revolution with black policemen rebelling against their mainly white officers, the new national police chief moved a team into Soweto yesterday to start restructuring the police force.

Accusing their officers of racism and of perpetuating apartheid-era attitudes, the rank and file have occupied stations, taken officers hostage and attempted to lynch another.

A local point of the rebellion has been the police station in Orlando, Soweto. There, a strike by black police protesting against the reinstatement of white officers

cleared of racism, was put down by a mainly white unit of armed riot police. Warrant Officer Jabulani Xaba, a striker, was killed. Calls for the disbandment of the units have now been added to the demands.

After the Orlando killing, a mob screamed for the dismissal of Brigadier Chris Ellis, the overall commander in Soweto. Later, Major Bertus Peterson, had to flee policemen who tried to lynch him after accusing him of leading the attack on the Orlando strikers. At Langa outside Cape Town, strikers held hostage their station commander, Captain Willem

Hartingh. Both Brigadier Ellis and Captain Hartingh have both been transferred to other jobs.

General George Fivaz, the first commissioner not to have links with the security police, sent a management team into Soweto to start "visible and in some cases dramatic changes" in the force's structure. He said the process would be a pilot project for transforming the police into a police service.

□ Durban: Gunmen killed three people, including a 12-month baby girl, in Inanda, outside this port city, police said yesterday. (Reuters)

Deng protégé fails as Mao heads poll

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE man designated by Deng Xiaoping as China's "core leader", President Jiang Zemin, almost failed to score in a recent poll of urban residents asked to name their favourite politician.

Chairman Mao came first with a 40 per cent vote in the poll by the official China Youth Daily. Chou En-lai, the late Prime Minister, won 27 per cent support, while Mr

Deng scored 10 per cent. Even foreign leaders fared better than Mr Jiang who, according to one observer, "barely registered". Nelson Mandela was chosen by 5 per cent of respondents, and Bill Clinton won 2 per cent support.

Mr Jiang is regarded as little more than Mr Deng's protégé, appointed party general secretary after the Tiananmen Square killings.

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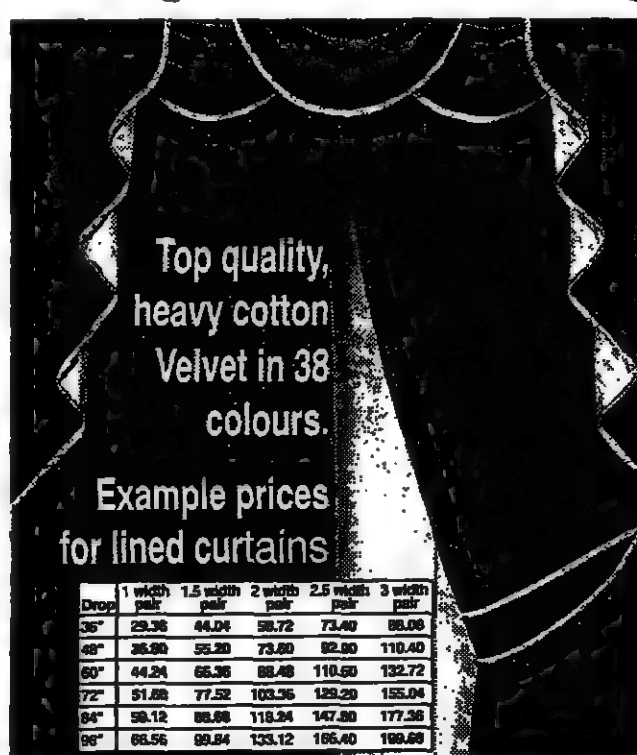
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A windsurfer sails along the A2 motorway as approach routes to Den Bosch in The Netherlands were flooded by the Waal river yesterday

Dutch refugees head for home

Amsterdam: The last Dutch flood evacuees headed home yesterday after a mass return over the weekend when the authorities declared most of the dykes around the downstream Maas and Waal rivers to be safe. "The situation is more or less back to normal," the Interior Ministry said. "The remaining people are being allowed home and the rest of the livestock are going back from Tuesday."

Swollen rivers forced about 250,000 people to leave their homes last week in The Netherlands' worst natural disaster in 40 years. But swiftly receding water levels allowed the last 14,000 people, from the villages of Gorinchem Oost and Boven Hardinxveld in the west of the evacuated region, to return home yesterday.

On Sunday 180,000 people in and around the towns of Tiel and Culemborg were greeted by signs saying "Welcome home". Officials said most of the main rivers and canals had reopened to shipping by last night, although repairs were continuing along much of the Maas.

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Clinton blasted by Republicans over budget 'cowardice'

BY MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL EVANS

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday sent Congress a \$1,600 billion (\$1,026 billion) budget proposal for 1996 that offered Capitol Hill's new Republican majority minimal help with its pledge to balance the Government's books over the next seven years.

Though Mr Clinton took office promising to halve the federal deficit and made deficit reduction a top priority during his first two years, his budget plan essentially proclaims that if the Republicans are serious about balancing the budget by 2002 then they, themselves, must make the deep and very painful cuts required.

Republicans accused Mr Clinton of political cowardice. He had shown "no interest in the heavy lifting needed to eliminate all budget deficits... this budget clearly lacks courage," said John Kasich, the House budget committee chairman. He had "raised the white flag of surrender at the red ink of government spending," said Pete Domenici, chairman of the Senate budget committee. Mr Clinton

retorted that his budget would produce a "leaner, not meaner, government", and Administration officials challenged the Republicans to spell out exactly what programmes they would cut, saying it was time for them to "put up or shut up".

Privately White House officials complain that Mr Clinton received no credit for his strenuous past deficit reductions efforts. Nor do they believe the Republicans can balance the budget without wrecking the economy or triggering a popular revolt by savaging cherished programmes. "If the Republicans want to do more deficit reduction let them come forward with their own ideas," said one. "Why make it easy for them?"

Mr Clinton's proposed budget appeared to be based largely on political rather than economic considerations. Under the President's plan the deficit would rise from \$192.5 billion this year to \$196.7 billion next, and remain close to \$200 billion for the rest of the decade. It makes practical-

ly no effort to cut Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and other enormous "entitlement" programmes whose rapid growth is the principal cause of America's annual deficits. It proposes a relatively modest \$144 billion in savings over the next five years, primarily through streamlining and trimming government departments.

However, yesterday concern was raised about the consequences of defence cuts planned. Harlan Ullman, a senior associate of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, has warned in a study of America's future military power that heavy cuts in the United States defence budget are seriously eroding America's fighting strength and could lead to a "hollow force" by the end of the century.

Congressmen were warned in a new analysis of planned post-Cold War military spending that the long-term consequences could reduce US total active armed forces from more than 1.6 million today to about one million.



Brown: hoped row could be resolved

Talks offer by China to avert US trade war

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

CHINA has moved to avert a looming trade war with America by offering to resume negotiations next week on ending rampant Chinese piracy of American music, films and computer software.

Wu Yi, the Chinese Trade Minister, made the offer in a letter received by Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, on Sunday night. It came a day after Mr Kantor had announced plans to impose the largest sanctions in US history on Chinese goods from February 26.

Mr Kantor, revealing the Chinese offer yesterday, called it a "step in the right direction", and added: "I don't know how China could have responded more quickly." He said that he would send negotiators back to China next Monday, giving Peking 13 days to settle US demands. The Trade Representative said that America would resume talks "with an open mind", but expected the Chinese to agree to immediate measures to crack down on the piracy of American intellectual property, including raids on the main Chinese compact disc producers and proper enforcement of its copyright protection laws.

He emphasised that the punitive 100 per cent tariffs he announced on Saturday would still be imposed if China refused to co-operate. "Piracy of US products is an extremely serious problem," he said. If America does go ahead with the punitive sanctions, China has said it will retaliate in kind.

Ron Brown, the US Commerce Secretary, had earlier played down talk of a trade war, saying that he hoped there would be a "re-engagement so that this problem could be overcome".

Independent Chinese experts noted that two earlier Sino-American trade disputes had been settled in the grace period between the announcement of sanctions and their actual implementation, and thought Peking would also relent this time.

The Administration carefully targeted its sanctions to minimise the impact on American businesses and consumers, and won widespread support for its action.

Space crews wave as Shuttle and Mir rendezvous

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE crew of the shuttle Discovery edged towards the Mir space station yesterday after an eleventh hour decision allowed the two vessels to rendezvous at 17,500 mph about 245 miles above the Earth.

The shuttle's commander, James Wetherbee, took manual control of Discovery as she passed half a mile below Mir, firing jets to bring the vessel to within feet of the space station. Commander Wetherbee exchanged waves with the crew of Mir. "This is the most beautiful thing I've ever seen in space," he said.

A leaky jet thruster had jeopardised the mission after Russian officials declared frozen fuel might damage parts of the Mir station and had said initially that the Discovery must remain at a distance of 400 yards.

Finally, less than three hours before the delicate manoeuvre was to begin, the Russian headquarters in Kaliningrad granted its approval for the two spacecraft to close to within 38ft in practice for a first docking between US and Russian vessels this June.

The decision came after three days of continual negotiations between American and Russian engineers. Nasa

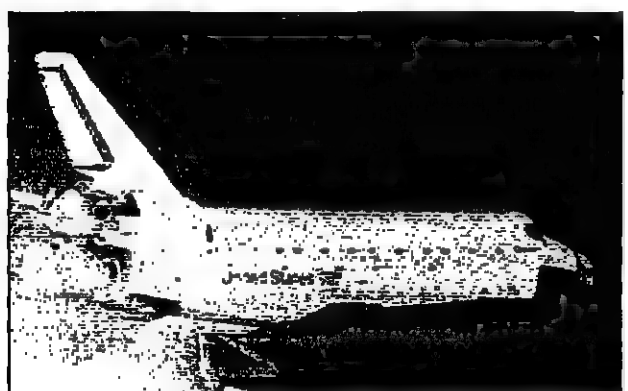
agreed yesterday to take responsibility, and told its astronauts to stop the leak by closing a manifold that supplies fuel to the broken jet.

Discovery's crew of six, including Dr Michael Foale, an astrophysics graduate of Cambridge University who will be the first Briton to walk in space on Thursday, and US Air Force Lieutenant-Colonel Ellison S. Collins, the first woman at the controls, had tried desperately yesterday morning to staunch the trail of icy fuel.

The Russian agency feared small blocks of the frozen fuel might damage optical sensors on a Soyuz capsule attached to the orbiting station, a vessel needed by the three Mir cosmonauts for their return to Earth next month.

The rendezvous, the most important element of the eight-day mission, includes a flight round the station and a conversation between Vladimir Titov, the second Russian aboard a US shuttle, and his three countrymen on board the space station.

Alexander Viktorenko and Elena Kondakova have been in orbit for 125 days, while crewman Valery Polyakov was marking his 394th day in space.



The shuttle Discovery: a leaky jet thruster had earlier jeopardised its rendezvous with Mir

Ecuador calls for Brazil to mediate

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

THE focus for a diplomatic solution to the border conflict between Ecuador and Peru shifted yesterday to Brazil as President Durán Ballén flew to Brasilia to ask Latin America's most powerful country to intervene.

Senhor Durán met his Brazilian counterpart, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who emphasised the need for a negotiated settlement in the dispute over an unmarked stretch of land in the inaccessible Cordillera del Condor.

Senhor Cardoso is well placed to press for a compromise between his feuding neighbours, Brazil, along with Argentina, Chile and the United States, is a guarantor of the Rio Protocol, which brought an end to the Peru-Ecuador war of 1941.

As Foreign Minister of Brazil for six months in the preceding Government of President Franco, Senhor Cardoso showed skill in his handling of regional disputes, earning the praise of Foreign Offices across the Continent.

His vocal commitment to a prosperous Latin America, with Continent-wide free trade as its pillar, has led him to assume a special interest in the present border clash. In addition to its potential function as an engine for economic growth in the region, Brazil under Senhor Cardoso is expected to undertake a more active diplomatic role in the region.

A Brazilian resolution of the crisis between Ecuador and Peru would be seen in official circles in Brasilia as strengthening the country's case for permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council.

Unruffled by the summit in Brasilia, President Fujimori of Peru announced yesterday that he would "remove all the invaders" from the isolated jungle region on his country's border with Ecuador.

Hours later, Senhor Durán left Brasilia for Buenos Aires for an emergency meeting with President Menem of Argentina.

Altar boy abused by 4 priests

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FOUR Catholic priests in Washington have been permanently removed from their posts after each admitted sexually abusing the same altar boy in the 1970s.

Cardinal James Hickey of Washington broke the news in a letter read from the pulpit of the four priests' churches during Mass on Sunday. The congregations were stunned, though their priests had disappeared without explanation ten days earlier.

The archdiocese took a conscious decision to disclose the priests' conduct, even alerting The Washington Post in advance. Recently the Catholic Church has been stung by allegations that it has sought to conceal cases of sexual abuse by its clergy.

In this instance the altar boy, now a 34-year-old professional living in Baltimore, contacted a group called Survivors of Clergy Abuse Link-up after he began having marital problems.

All four priests, Thomas Schaeffer, Alphonsus Smith, Edward Pritchard and Edward Hartell, have been sent for treatment at undisclosed locations.

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Pressure grows on Britain to resolve discord on Europe

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

MINISTERS who are bogged down in the Conservative Party's trench warfare over Europe were warned yesterday that Britain has only a few months to put together an agreed negotiating strategy for the opening phase of the European Union's conference which will be rewriting the Maastricht treaty.

British diplomats have been told by the French Government that the EU summit in Cannes at the end of June may start to shape the agenda for talks which are not due to open officially until next year. A committee of experts, junior ministers and MEPs opens discussions on the agenda for the 1996 conference at Messina, Sicily, in early June. A special summit of EU leaders is being planned in Majorca for September 22-23.

This calendar puts pressure on the British Cabinet to resolve its differences over Europe before the real bargaining starts. "John Major had better get his ideas together pretty fast, because he's going to have to say something clear pretty soon," one EU official said.

As the preparatory work for next year's conference on the Maastricht treaty gets under way, Britain's partners are trying to work out how long Mr Major can remain Prime Minister and what kind of European policy will emerge from the Tory party's convulsions.

Hans van Mierlo, the Dutch Foreign Minister, met Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, in London the other day and, according to Dutch sources, was appalled by the conversation. Mr van Mierlo wanted to discuss how EU external policy should be redesigned when the Union's governments meet to assess the Maastricht treaty.

"Hurd just said 'no' to everything. They didn't really have a conversation at all," said one Dutch official. In the

Dutch town of Leiden last September, Mr Major delivered a carefully wrought speech on the future shape of the EU which dwelt on his reservations about European integration but ruled nothing out. Then in an interview last month with Sir David Frost, the Prime Minister unilaterally redefined the Government's position as opposed to any significant changes in the distribution of power in the EU system.

That lurch towards a harder line on Europe triggered open warfare in the Cabinet and a fresh burst of analysis in Brussels, Paris, Bonn and elsewhere over Mr Major's chances of survival. But the reassessments are cautious: EU governments were told once before that Mr Major was on the skids, only to find that they had been deceived.

A few leading personalities in the EU only agreed to Britain's opt-out from Maastricht's social chapter in December 1991 because they comforted themselves that a British election was only months away and that a Labour Government would abandon the exemption within days of winning power. The narrow margin of the Conser-

vative victory in 1992 led directly to the slow parliamentary struggle to ratify Maastricht and to Labour's attempts to bring down the Government and the treaty.

Both spectacles horrified politicians and the people in continental states, such as the Benelux countries, where European integration is believed to be too important to be controversial and referendums are regarded as the last refuge of demagogues.

Advocates of a decisive move towards deeper European union next year are divided over whether the arrival of a Labour Government led by Tony Blair would make much difference. Conventional wisdom holds that the 1996 conference should be stretched into 1997 and that the 14 other governments should wait until after a British election, which must be held by May 1997, to finalise their agreements on the powers of the European Parliament, majority voting or the co-ordination of defence policies.

Other voices can already be heard arguing that Mr Blair's European policies are so vague that in practice they too will be filled out by the prevailing winds of Euro-sceptical public feeling. Apart from the clear difference over the social chapter, Jacques Delors remarked acridly last year, there really is not much to choose between the EU policies of either main British party.

Neither Germany nor France has made up its mind on exactly what to bid for in 1996. Both administrations must wait for the final result of the French presidential election in May but both decisions will also be influenced by what is hammered out in London — and by whether British ministers can stick to the same policy for more than a few days at a time.

Letters, page 19



Hurd: shocked Dutch with repeated "no"

Clash over 'Alexander's tomb'

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

EXPERTS are to meet in Cairo on Thursday in an attempt to shed light on a Greek archaeologist's claims to have discovered the long-lost tomb of Alexander the Great.

Abdel Halim Nureddin, the chief of the Egyptian Antiquities Authority, said excavations at the site would go ahead even though Greek experts sent to examine the tomb raised serious doubts about its authenticity. Thanos

Mikroustikos, the Greek Culture Minister, said Greece had seen no proof that ancient ruins in Egypt's Western Desert are part of the tomb.

The experts said that, according to the evidence shown to them by Egyptian authorities and an inspection of the Siwa site, it seemed the monument belonged to much later Roman times. Liana Souvaltzis, an archaeologist, said she had found inscriptions referring to

Alexander and his successor on three standing stones at the site of a Doranic temple at al-Maraki near the Western Desert oasis town of Siwa.

Mr Nureddin said Ms Souvaltzis insisted she had read the inscriptions correctly. Mr Nureddin said that excavations with a Greek-Egyptian mission would continue after Ramadan, the Muslim fasting month, which finishes at the end of February.

Mitterrand isolated on Algeria talks plan

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN PARIS

FRENCH disarray over the crisis in Algeria worsened yesterday when the Foreign Ministry refused to endorse President Mitterrand's suggestion of a European-backed peace conference.

Mitterrand, whose term of office ends in May, has received no support from Edouard Balladur's conservative Cabinet since he put forward his proposal last Friday. The Socialist President's remarks provoked a furious reaction from Algeria's military-backed Government, which summoned the French Ambassador to complain about interference in domestic affairs. The Algerian regime has been locked in a three-year war against Muslim insurgents who want to create an Islamic state.

On Sunday, Charles Pasqua, the Interior Minister, indicated that the President's suggestion had not been discussed with the Cabinet. "I'm not certain we would associate ourselves with this initiative," M Pasqua said.

The Foreign Ministry hinted yesterday that it had also not been informed or consulted. Alain Juppé, the Foreign Minister, said no initiative was imminent.

Mitterrand suggested that the European Union, of which France holds the rotating six-month presidency, should organise a peace conference based in part on proposals drafted by Algeria's outlawed fundamentalist movement and legal opposition parties during talks last month in Rome. The Algerian Government rejected those proposals.

An estimated 30,000 people have been killed in the Algerian conflict, which was triggered when national parliamentary elections were cancelled in order to thwart a fundamentalist victory.

EU takes steps towards accession of Cyprus

BY MICHAEL BINYON AND GEORGE BROCK

THE European Union has agreed in principle to a French proposal to open accession talks with Cyprus within six months of next year's intergovernmental conference, provided Greece immediately drops its veto on a Turkish customs union with the EU.

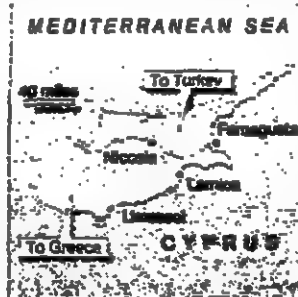
Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said after a meeting with his counterparts in Brussels that "the ice is broken and there is a good chance we can agree a customs union with Turkey on March 6". He said Greece had lifted its blockade on the proposed customs union and the financial protocol on the understanding that talks between Nicosia and Brussels would start. This still had to be agreed by all the 15 member Governments, however.

Two important economic deals with Turkey have been stalled for four years by Greek vetoes. Before Herr Kinkel's announcement, EU officials said last night that such deals had been attempted on several previous occasions and had fallen apart over details at the last moment. Final agreement may have to wait until a further EU ministers meeting next month.

Ministers yesterday

finalised the details of a customs union with Turkey by ironing out last-minute problems over import rules for goods such as cut flowers, mandarins and textiles. Agreement on the customs union could unfreeze grants and loans to Turkey worth more than £600 million. Turkey has been trying to open negotiations for its own EU membership for several years without success but the customs union would give it the closest relations of any states close to the EU, save for Norway and Iceland.

Cyprus has been split between Greek and Turkish sectors since the Turkey invaded the island in 1974. A majority of EU and United Nations Governments recognise Greek-controlled Cyprus



Leading article, page 19

Catalans stand by González

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN BARCELONA

FELIPE GONZÁLEZ, the Spanish Prime Minister, faces the start of his tenth state of the nation debate in the Congress tomorrow with his personal credibility at an all-time low and his minority Government facing its worst crisis.

He knows, however, that he can count on the support of Jordi Pujol, the wily leader of the Catalan nationalists, who has had rare talks with the Popular Party, the main conservative opposition nationally, but believes that the

Socialists are more likely to deliver what he wants. "The permanence of the Government is assured," Señor Pujol said at the weekend. "Our support is vigorous and solid. Policy will be formulated by the Socialists and us."

When the Socialists, in power since 1982, were re-elected with a minority in 1993, the 17 deputies representing Señor Pujol's nationalist alliance, Convergència i Unió, refused to form a coalition with Señor González, but kept him in

power. Señor Pujol complains that Spain has been getting a bad foreign press. "Actually the Spanish economy is getting better," he said.

He takes credit for the modest recovery: "It has gone very well partly due to our policies." Since he represents Spain's main business region, Señor Pujol is keen to see an end to the uncertainty that has stunted growth and threatens to undermine the country's presidency of the European Union later this year.

Austrian injured by bomb

Vienna: A man was injured yesterday when a bomb exploded in an Austrian town, less than two days after four gypsies were killed in a blast in the same region, Franz Loeschner, the Austrian Interior Minister, said.

The bomb was planted in a dustbin in the town of Sünz and went off when a rubbish collector emptied it. Herr Loeschner said there were clues to suggest an ethnic motive behind the attack, but he did not mention right-wing extremists. (Reuters)

Town stormed

Kabul: The north Afghan town of Kunduz has fallen to forces opposed to President Rabbani, the Defence Ministry said. The troops were allied to General Abdul Rashid Dostum. (Reuters)

Arson attack

Mbabane: Suspected pro-democracy activists badly damaged Swaziland's parliament, just days before Baroness Chalker, the Overseas Development Minister, was due to make a speech there. (AFP)

Mother shot

Brussels: A boy of three shot his pregnant mother, who then gave birth prematurely, police said. The woman is in critical condition. The baby is expected to live. (Reuters)

Pacific quake

Wellington: An earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale took place in the Pacific about 77 miles southeast of New Zealand but there was no damage. (AFP)

Off the hook

Helsinki: Rescuers picked up two men who were drifting away to the open sea in the Gulf of Finland after the ice on which they were fishing broke away from the shore. (Reuters)

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Walesa ultimatum

Warsaw: President Walesa called on the Polish Government to resign yesterday, or else he would dissolve the left-dominated Parliament, throwing the country into its greatest political crisis since the end of Communist rule (Patricia Kora writes).

"Either the Government will resign, or you will dis-

band," Mr Walesa said at an acrimonious meeting with parliamentary leaders, including Waldemar Pawlak, the Prime Minister, whom Mr Walesa wants to replace. The President said a newspaper report that he was seeking to nominate General Tadeusz Wilecki, head of the army general staff, was an insult.

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Today we publish the first part of our list of concerts, with full details of those available in London and the regional concerts which take place next week. A full regional listing will appear next week.

Britain's leading orchestras take their place alongside major international ensembles. The concert halls range from the brand new Birmingham Symphony Hall to St Mary's Parish Church in Luton. Music making can take place anywhere!

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performs in London at the Barbican and the Royal Festival Hall and also in Bristol, Leicester, Nottingham and Southend. Among foreign orchestras on offer is the Warsaw State Philharmonic, with a busy schedule that takes in Birmingham, Carlisle, Edinburgh, Ipswich, Leicester and Northampton. The Stuttgart

Philharmonic visits Edinburgh, Glasgow, Halifax and Southend.

The BBC is still the largest provider of music in Britain, with orchestras based in London, Manchester, Cardiff and Glasgow. You can see all four in our offer and take a friend for just 20p. Andrew Davis conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in performances of Elgar's *Enigma Variations* and the *Violin Concerto* played by Ida Haendel. As an orchestra with a reputation for new work, it has included the world premiere of David Sawer's *Trumpet Concerto*, and Hugh Wood's *Symphony No 2*, first played at the Proms in 1992, in its programmes.

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra can be found at the refurbished Festival Theatre in Edinburgh. St David's Hall, the national concert hall of Wales, is the best place to hear Wales's national orchestra, affectionately known as BBC NOW, under the leadership of its principal conductor, Tadaaki Otaka.

If you prefer music from around the world, try Blackheath Concert Halls in south London where concerts include a performance by a Japanese children's choir featuring classical and traditional Japanese music and a concert of Indian music played on traditional instruments. At Theatre Cwylwyd in Mold you can tap your feet to the Cajun Boat Band.



The BBC National Orchestra of Wales, which will be playing at St David's Hall, Cardiff, on February 18, conducted by Ion Martin

Music in the capital

Barbican Centre (0171 638 8891).

Lindsay String Quartet: Tippett String Quartet No 4; Elgar String Quartet. Feb 17: £7.50.

Lindsay String Quartet: Beethoven String Quartet Op 95; Tippett String Quartet No 5. Feb 19: £7.50.

Joanna MacGregor Recital: Messiaen Vingt Regards Sur L'enfant-Jesus. March 5: £6, £10, £14.

London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Colin Davis: soloists: Faye Robinson, Maria Popescu, Laurence Dale, Stephen Richardson: London Symphony Chorus: Tippett *The Mask of Time*. Feb 26: £6-£30.

London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Richard MeNicholl: Sumer Is Icomin In Gershwin, Chabrier, Beethoven and Delius. March 25: £5-£6.

National Youth Orchestra, conducted by Louis Fremaux: Berlioz Overture Les Francs Juges; Hindemith Mathis der Maler; Shostakovich Symphony No 12, "The Year 1917". April 19: £4-£22.50.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Yehudi Menuhin: soloist Ida Haendel: Elgar *In The South*; "Allegro"; Britten Violin Concerto; Vaughan Williams Symphony No 5; sponsored by Independent Insurance. March 3: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras: soloist Steven Isserlis: Dvorak Overture "Carnival"; Cello Concerto and Symphony No 7; sponsored by NEC (UK). March 15: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras: soloist Tasmin Little: Martinu *Les Fresques de Piero della Francesca*; Dvorak Violin Concerto and Dvorak *In Nature's Realm*; Janacek *Sinfonietta*; Royal Philharmonic Society Concert March 17: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Jane Glover: soloist Christine Brewer; Schoenberg *Verklarte Nacht*; Strauss Four Last Songs; Mozart Symphony No 41, "Jupiter"; sponsored by Tring International. April 13: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Paavo Jarvi: soloist Lars Vogt: Part Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten; Grieg Piano Concerto; Sibelius Symphony No 5. May 7: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Vernon Handley: soloists: Haken Hardenberger and the Tallis Chamber Choir; Elgar Introduction and Allegro for Strings; Blake Watkins Trumpet Concerto (London premiere); Holst *The Planets*; sponsored by Tring International. May 20: £5-£15.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Litton: soloists: Emma Johnson, Sylvia McNair; Piston *The Miracle Flutist*; Copland Concerto for Clarinet and Strings with Harp and Piano; Griffes *The White Peacock*; Barber Knoxville Summer of

1915; Gershwin *An American in Paris*. June 7: £5-£15.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Litton: soloist Jon Kimura Parker; Harris Symphony No 3; Barber Piano Concerto; Copland Our Town; Bernstein Fancy Free. June 9: £5-£15.

English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Raymond Leppard: soloists: Yvonne Kenny, Stephanie Gonley; Mozart Overture "Der Schauspielerdirektor" and Aria "Bella, mia fiamma"; Vioti Violin Concerto in A minor; Haydn Sonata di Berenice and Symphony No 103 "Drumroll". Feb 22: £6-£19.

English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Raymond Leppard: soloist Imogen Cooper: Mozart Symphony No 34 in C; Piano Concerto No 15 in B Flat; Haydn Overture "Windsor Castle" and Symphony No 104 "London". Feb 28: £6-£19.

May 16: £8-£15. (0171 702 1377).

Royal Festival Hall (0171 928 8800).

London Mozart Players, conducted by Matthias Bamert: soloist Barry Douglas; Mozart Symphony No 34 in C; Beethoven Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat Op 19; Mozart German Dances; Wit Jena Symph. May 25: £8-£18.

BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Davis: soloist Graham Ashton: Elgar Falstaff; David Sawer Trumpet Concerto (world premiere); Elgar *Enigma Variations*; part of Edward Elgar *The Music Maker*; sponsored by Land Rover. March 6: £10.

BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Davis: soloist Ida Haendel: Bach orch Elgar Fantasy and Fugue in C Minor; Hugh Wood Symph: Elgar Violin Concerto; Part of Edward Elgar *The Music Maker*; sponsored by Land Rover. March 19: £10.

36 "Linz": Maxwell Davies Stone Litany; Mendelssohn Symphony No 3 "Scottish". May 10: £5-£15.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by David Atherton: soloist Imogen Cooper: Tchaikovsky/Strauss Pas de Deux Variation d'Aurore, Entracte symphonique; Mozart Piano Concerto No 23; Stravinsky Divertimento from Le Baiser de la Fée. May 19: £5-£15.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Valery Gergiev: Mozart Symphony No 40; Mahler Symphony No 6; Royal Philharmonic Mariinsky-Kirov Series; sponsored by Independent Insurance. May 31: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Valery Gergiev: soloists Olga Borodina, Sergei Alexashkin; Berlioz Romeo and Juliet; Royal Philharmonic Mariinsky-Kirov Series; sponsored by Independent Insurance. June 3: £5-£27.

Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Christoph von Dohnanyi: Brahms Symphony No 1 and Symphony No 3. Feb 27: £5-£22.

Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Wolfgang Sawallisch: soloist Murray Perahia; Strauss Macbeth; Schumann Piano Concerto; Strauss Ein Heldenleben. March 11: £5-£22.

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO), conducted by Sir Simon Rattle: soloist Paul Crossley; Stravinsky Ballet Orpheus; Messiaen Trios Petites Liturgies de la Présence Divine; Bartok Concerto for Orchestra. Feb 25: £17, £20, £25.

CBSO conducted by Sir Simon Rattle: soloist Felicity Lott; Copland Appalachian Spring; Strauss Cloning Scene from Capriccio; Vaughan Williams Symph No 5; March 9: £17, £20, £25.

CBSO, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle: soloist Alfred Brendel; Schoenberg and Shostakovich; March 23: £17, £20, £25.

Blackheath Concert Halls (0181 463 0100) Shizuoka Children's Choir: classical and traditional Japanese repertoire. Only London performance. March 31: £5.

Sheela Mukherjee and Shiv Shankar Ray: Indian Classical music played on traditional instruments. April 2: £7.50.

Flute Recital: Patrick Williams and Peter O'Hagan; Bach Sonata No 6, Telemann, Reinecke, Enesco and Doppler; April 5: £8.

Beethoven String Trio of London; Pavlo Beznosiuk, Jeremy Williams, Richard Tunnicliffe: Beethoven Trio in D Op 8 and Beethoven Trio in E flat Op 3; March 12: £7.50.

Candella, Eva Lutton, Donna and K. B. B: International Women's Week Event; music from Ireland, Greece and South America; March 10: £7.

Marcia Pendlebury in Empress of the Blues: songs, narrative, jazz and live dance; review based on the life of Bessie Smith; March 20: £7.50, £10.

Beethoven String Trio of London with John York: Haydn Trio Op 53 No 1 in G Major; Beethoven Trio Op 9 No 2 in D Major; Brahms Piano Quartet Op 60 No 3 in C Minor; March 10: £7.50.

Beethoven String Trio of London; Schubert Trio in B Flat; Beethoven Trio in C Minor Op 9 No 3; Brahms Piano Quartet in G Major Op 26 No 2; March 11: £7.50.

Beethoven String Trio of London; Beethoven Trio in G Major Op 9 No 1; Gideon Klein Trio (1944); Brahms Piano Quartet in G Major Op 25 No 1; March 12: £7.50.

Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition; Feb 15: £19.50-£29.

BRIGHTON

The Dome (01273 709709) Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Barry Wordsworth: soloist Richard Durrant; Fauré Pavane; Rodrigo Concierto d'Aranjuez; Vivaldi Mandolin Concerto in D; Mozart Symph No 39 in E flat; March 11: £7.50, £10.50, £13.50.

CARDIFF

St David's Hall (01222 371236/253900) BBC National Orchestra of Wales, conducted by Ion Martin; soloist Simon Preston; Ravel Rapsodie Espagnole; Poulenc Organ Concerto; Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique; Feb 18: £5.50-£18.50.

CHELTENHAM

Pixville Pump Room (0242 227979) Les Agrements; soloists: Brinley Yare, Relko Ichise, Karina Brown; French court music from the turn of the 18th century; part of the Cheltenham Early Music series; Feb 17: £8.50, £12.50.

COVENTRY

Warwick Arts Centre (01203 524524) Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Christoph von Dohnanyi; Brahms Symphonies No 2 and No 4; Feb 18: £14.75, £18.25, £21.50.

EDINBURGH

Festival Theatre (031 529 6000) BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Pinchas Steinberg; soloist Wolfgang Holmair; Beethoven Symphony No 7; Nicolai Overture The

monk Orchestra, conducted by Arnold Katz; soloist Paul Crossley; Strauss Death and Transfiguration; Prokofiev Piano Concerto No 3 in C; Rachmaninov Symphony No 3 in A minor; Feb 17: £4-£12.

MANCHESTER

Free Trade Hall (0161 834 1712) Halle Orchestra, conducted by John Currie; soloists: Jennifer Bern, Jamie MacDougall, Robert Hayward; Haydn The Creation; Feb 19: £3-£19.50.

BBC Philharmonic, conducted by Vassily Sinaisky; soloists Sophia Larson, Paul Elming, Artur Korn; A Night of Wagner: Die Walkure Act One, Gotterdammerung excerpts; Siegfried's Rhine Jour-

ney; Siegfried's Funeral March; Immolation Scene; Feb 18: £3-£16.

MOLD

Theatr Cwylwyd (01352 755114) John Mills, guitar. Feb 28: £5.

NORTHAMPTON

Derngate (016 04 24811) Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Arnold Katz; soloist Paul Crossley; Prokofiev Suite, Lieutenant Kije; Prokofiev Piano Concerto No 3 in C; Rachmaninov Symphony No 3 in A Minor; Feb 19: £6-£20.

POOLE

Poole Arts Centre (01202 685222) Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mikhail Pletnev; Elgar Falstaff; Tchaikovsky Pathétique Symphony. Feb 15: £6-£16.50.

SOUTHAMPTON

North Guild Civic Centre (01703 632601) Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mikhail Pletnev; Elgar Falstaff; Tchaikovsky Pathétique Symphony. Feb 17: £6-£14.

A full list of concerts in the following towns will appear in *The Times* next Tuesday:

Birmingham
Bournemouth
Brighton
Bristol
Cardiff
Carlisle
Cheltenham
Coventry
Crawley
Darlington
Edinburgh
Glasgow
Halifax
Huddersfield
Ipswich
Leeds
Leicester
Lincoln
Liverpool
Luton
Manchester
Mold
Newcastle upon Tyne
Northampton
Nottingham
Poole
Rickmansworth
Snap
Southampton
Southend
Worthing



Note of fun: Rusen Gunes, principal viola with the BBC SO

South Bank Centre: QEH (0171 928 8800).

London Mozart Players, conducted by Matthias Bamert: soloist Justus Frantz; Stamitz Symphony No 3 Op 24; Mozart Piano Concerto No 27; Mozart Six Minuets; Beethoven Symphony No 1 in C, Op 21.

Academy of St Martin in the Fields, directed by Kenneth Sillito: soloist Allison Eldridge; Mozart Symphony No 29; Haydn Cello Concerto in D; Bartok Divertimento; sponsored by Energis. April 25: £8-£15. (0171 702 1377).

Academy of St Martin in the Fields, directed by Kenneth Sillito: soloist Horacio Franco; Handel Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 11; Geminiani; Telemann, Concerto in C for Recorder, Hand-d Trio Sonata Op 2 No 4; Corelli Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 2; Vivaldi Concerto for Soprano Recorder; Telemann Don Quichotte; sponsored by Nuclear Electric.

BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Davis: soloists: Yvonne Kenny, Jeanne Loriod; BBC Singers: Messiaen Cinq Rechants and Turangalila Symph. March 22: £10.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Marek Janowski: soloist Radu Lupu; Schumann Overture "Manfred"; Beethoven Piano Concerto No 1; Brahms Symphony No 2. March 30: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Yuri Temirkanov; Shostakovich Symphony No 1; Tchaikovsky Symphony No 5. April 22: £5-£27.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Jun-ichi Hirokami; soloists: Boris Belkin, Inger Dam-Jensen; Webern Im Sommerwind; Shostakovich Violin Concerto No 1; Mahler No 4. April 24: £5-£15.

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Peter Maxwell Davies; soloist Della Jones; Mozart Symphony No

APPLICATION FORM

This application form with six differently numbered tokens attached entitles the bearer to one ticket for 20p when another is purchased at the price printed in *The Times* offer for the same concert. Only one 20p ticket per application unless otherwise stated in the offer. The tokens are only valid for the performance stated in the offer and cannot be exchanged for cash or used in conjunction with any other offer. All tickets are subject to availability.

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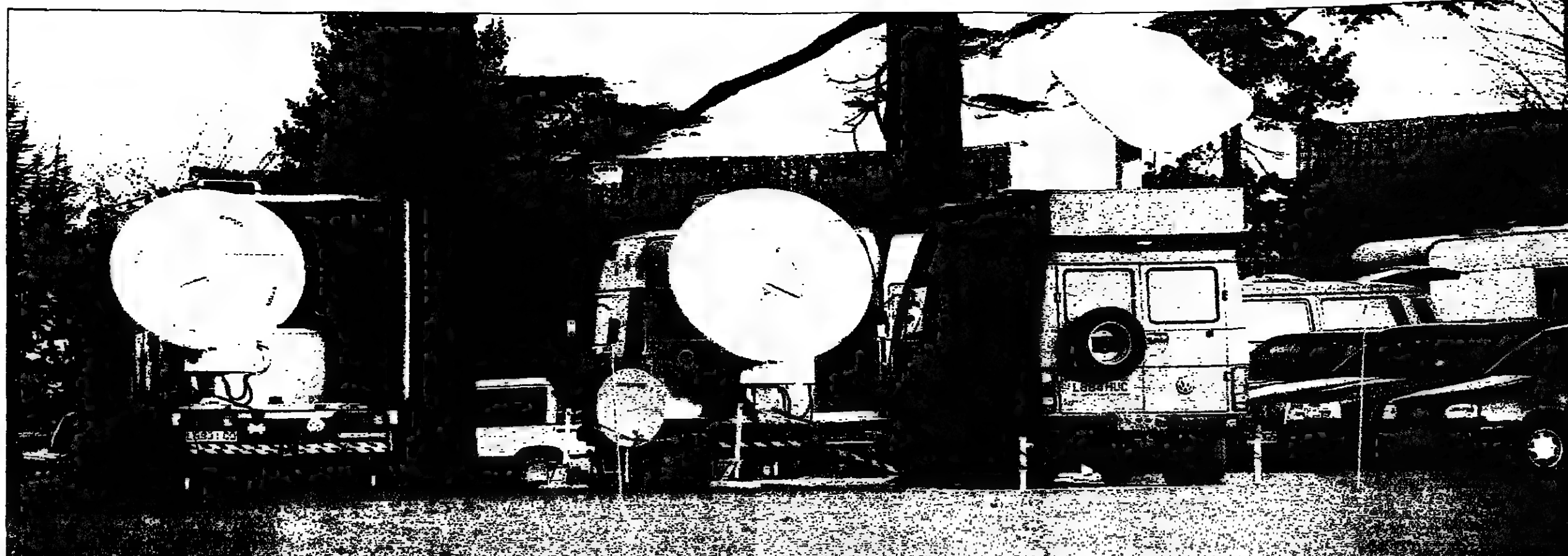
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HOW TO BOOK

Collect six of the tokens that will be appearing in *The Times* during the next two weeks and telephone the number given for the concert of your choice. In most cases, but not always, this will be the box office at the concert hall. Please do not telephone until you have all six tokens as they cannot accept any bookings until February 13. You must book tickets before February 28.

Please state at the time of booking that you are using *The Times* 20p token. You may book over the phone but tickets cannot be issued until the tokens have been received by the booking office. You may book for more than one concert at venues marked *, and claim a 20p ticket for each concert, but you must book all your tickets at the same time. The offer is limited to one 20p ticket for each concert per household.

The world has never been interested in the peaceful town of Dursley. But now the international media have taken over. **Bill Frost writes**



Dursley, electronically linked to the world, finds a place in history: hotels in the area are full to bursting, local people charge the media for premium parking spaces, and the magistrates' court has been given an expensive face-lift

Apparently impervious to the biting February wind, the underemployed formed an unholy alliance with the world's press outside Dursley magistrates' court in Gloucestershire early yesterday morning.

While waiting for justice to take its course in the case of Rosemary West — charged with ten counts of murder — the jobless howled and shouted obscenities to lucrative order while the television cameras rolled. Four young pram-pushing mothers won pride of place in this dubious photo-opportunity as they bellowed slogans which would have them turfed out of even the rowdiest football ground.

Until yesterday the most dramatic event in the life of this small Gloucestershire town was in 1699 when, according to Nikolaus Pevsner, the spire of the medieval parish church of St James — and much of its tower — collapsed. Tradition also has it that Shakespeare once lived in the town, a local legend based on a placename mentioned in *Henry IV Part 2*.

But now the town is welcoming

the international press with open arms. Schoolchildren dance and grimace before the cameras during their lunch break while their parents frown menacingly for Belgian, German, French and American photographers with fat wallets and countless rolls of film.

By the time the police van carrying Mrs West, who pleads not guilty to all the charges against her, arrived at the court, the television crews had already rounded up the most photogenic subjects they could find to bellow and blaspheme. The first take having proved unsatisfactory, the performers were lined up once more to play the scene again. "This time a bit louder if you can," said an American network producer.

Carol James had travelled specially from Gloucester for the occasion. "It's like your 15 seconds of fame. Jump in front of the

cameras and see yourself on the TV news or in the paper, but that's second best, of course," the 18-year-old one-time shop assistant explained.

At 10am the reporters are summoned before Peter Gilmour Noto Badge, the Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, to be reminded of rules covering committal hearings which many have long forgotten or sometimes chosen to ignore. Mr Badge, who favours black jacket and pin-stripes, even provides a printed aide memoire should a slip of lunch confuse some of the foreign press corps.

Even more unusually, he also offers a potted biography. Mr Badge is chairman and founding father of the Coracle Society. When not dispensing justice, he devotes himself to keeping alive the ancient art of making and paddling

the craft. In the 1964 general election he trailed third as the Liberal candidate for Windsor and Maidenhead.

The Lord Chancellor's Department said that Gloucester magistrates had asked for Mr Badge to hear the committal. "It does happen quite often with committals," a spokesman said, "where it is a serious case and the court feels there should be a stipendiary magistrate, because they are full-time. They asked for Mr Badge because he is one of the country's most senior magistrates, probably the most senior, and a former Crown court recorder."

Be that as it may, by mid-morning yesterday the foreign press were thoroughly confused. "What exactly is happening now? I just don't understand a word of

this at all. It is baffling," said the young woman representing a Belgian newspaper after listening to submissions from Mrs West's barrister.

Three hundred yards down the road and half an hour later the Kingshill Inn is doing splendid business. Mr Badge has adjourned the proceedings and, in the absence of anything better to occupy their time, the media circus has gathered before the bar in strength.

Allan Wits, the landlord, beams at his thirsty customers, knowing he was right to take on more bar and kitchen staff to cope with the extra demand. "This is the only pub handy for the court, so I am expecting a lot of extra mouths to feed and water," he says. "We don't have any more rooms to let, because we have BBC Television, BBC Radio and Reuters, who have

all made arrangements to work here during the week. So we will be right in the thick of it."

As red-faced locals jostle for position at the bar with reporters, an acrimonious altercation unfolds when a French television crew attempts to film the press at play. Some journalists turn their backs to the camera while most sensibly run for cover.

"What is wrong. Why are you all so shy?" asks the producer as the pack disperses in panic.

Back at the court Carol James is still posing for photographs. "It is a bit chilly but I don't mind the weather, provided I get my picture somewhere," she says, turning her collar against the wind.

Cameras, cables and satellite dishes surround the court, and more high-tech gadgetry is being moved in by the hour. The locals love it: they are charging the

electronic media for prime parking spaces. Pat Connors, mayor of Dursley, said: "The town has never experienced anything like this. It will be like Cheltenham during race week."

Magistrates last sat in Dursley two years ago. Since then the red-brick court has been mothballed and cases have been heard ten miles away in Stroud. Now £17,000 has been spent on new carpets, locks, power points, barriers and an audio link to relay the proceedings to journalists who cannot find seats in the court itself.

Hotels in the town, and for miles around, are cashing in furiously on the decision by the Lord Chancellor's Department to switch the case from Gloucester to prevent clogging up the city's courts. Special press menus, with complementary bottles of house wine, are in evidence.

Carol James, blue with the cold by late afternoon yesterday, would like nothing better than a place in the public gallery. I want to be inside that court so I can be part of it, part of history. After all, I've got nothing else to do."

Made herself a walking, living doll

If you look like Barbie, will it protect you from a horrible, nasty world?

An extraordinary vision slithers through the door in a little eddy of giggles, high heels and shiny handbags. It has a pink dolly face with skin suggestive of marzipan, bright yellow hair with matching curled fringe, flawless dentistry, wide crimson lips and a pert Playboy bunny figure. The vision is human, yet somehow it seems slightly apart from the mainstream of the human race.

This is because the body belongs to Cindy Jackson, probably the only self-proclaimed living Barbie doll in north Highgate. Ms Jackson has just emerged from her 19th cosmetic surgery operation. In the last seven years she has become to the vanity-cosmetic-surgery industry what Imelda Staunton was to the Italian shoe industry.

"I think I have achieved my goal of looking like Barbie, but I'm still pushing new bound-

aries," she says, grinning almost to the point of post-operative make-up damage. "My image of Barbie is of a beautiful, vulnerable, cute woman with long legs, a small chin, wide eyes, soft skin..."

The list rambles on and I begin to wonder whether, like the plastic fashion doll, her feet have been reshaped into a permanent tip-toe position so that she can slip from her high-heeled fluffy pom-pom mules to strappy sandals.

Frank and specific, she lists her recent operations in the way that most of us run through the films we've seen in the last couple of months. Multiple dermabrasion, two nose jobs, two chemical face peels, breast implants and removals and liposuction vacuuming work all over the place. She points out a mole on her cheek at nose level that used to be down near her jawbone. It travels north each time her face is lifted.

Her latest brush with the scalpel was with a "heavy-duty face lift". "They pulled my face off, did some work in my cheek area — that's one of my problem areas — and scraped the tissue off while someone held the skin back with tongs."

Ms Jackson's obsession began in 1988 when she went to a surgeon asking for a face lift. "I wanted beauty, I wanted glamour, and I wanted it bad — so bad that I was prepared



Cindy, doll: "I wanted glamour and I wanted it bad."

to mutilate myself beyond recognition."

American B-grade television dramas seem to have shaped her speech as well as her nose and jaw.

I came from nowhere and I wanted power, and thought that if I looked young and pretty I could have it. And you know what? I've got it."

But guess what else? Ms Jackson is not all that thrilled with it. Her definition of power seems to revolve around reducing men to the consistency of jellied consommé. She seems to despise men, but since she's gone to all this trouble of attracting them, she grins her pretty teeth

and flirts. That she has been in more laps than a napkin since turning into a Barbie doll, is not in itself particularly interesting, but when I suggest that her preoccupations with power and prettiness are not readily associated with a cosy home life, she narrows her wide eyes and makes a face unlike any I have ever seen on a teenage fashion doll.

"Some women deal with today's horrible, nasty world with alcohol; some gorge themselves with food or eat nothing. I've created a front and I hide behind that. I'm not saying that what I have is a problem. I just..." Risking a stabbing with an eyebrow

pencil, I suggest that she might perhaps just have a teeny bit of a problem.

Those eyes crinkled closed and then get winched open again (she put on a thick pair of "demi lashes" especially for the interview). But, being Barbie, she is not prepared to discuss this and moves on to deliver a swift tutorial on the benefits of flirting with millionaires. "I have no interest in serious relationships. Most men when they become besotted with me are just falling in love with an image. I don't respect them, but who the hell would deny themselves luxury, fast cars, top-rate food and sensual pleasures, and the chance to have running after them the kind of men that most women would die for?"

It is hard to imagine the depths of this poor woman's delusion. But then the childhood she describes was not exactly conducive to a happy and stable adulthood. "My mother and sister were pretty but I was ugly. I was a nobody." She was raised on an isolated farm in Ohio, and her early life seems to have been moulded by the intention of getting away from her family.

Soon after she moved to England, her father died leaving her sufficient funds to embark on her physical re-engineering, and she has since underwritten her £35,000 worth of surgery with the earnings from her consulting service for people considering cosmetic surgery.

In three months Ms Jackson turns 40 and reckons that she has another 20 Barbie years ahead of her. What with all that man-conquering to be done and the time spent on operations and convalescing and the consultancy to run, it's just as well there aren't too many career opportunities beckoning for a professional Barbie doll in north Highgate.

JOANNA PITMAN

Turn that station down

RADIO 1 was never a passion: indeed, I can't say that I was ever in the pop thing in a professional-teenager way. But the other day I found myself drawn back to it. If only to hear for myself what it's really like now and not just what the ratings, and the pundits, say it's like. The ratings are easily explained, it turns out: whizzing along the dial I came upon a dozen Radio 1 which revealed themselves as Capital, or Kiss, or a couple of kids with an illegal transmitter and a bunch of heavy-on-the-bass CDs, only when the jingly station ident was played.

But, I found it, and guess what the station which was vacuous and silly in the Seventies is still vacuous and silly. But whereas it used to be idiotic in an upbeat kind of way, now it is drone and depressing.

WITH SOME exceptions the tone is aggressively amateurish, as if to appear professional would in some way be uncool. Much of youth broadcasting works on the daft principle that the more amateurish a presenter is the more personable he or she seems. It's not just that most of the DJs are part of the Gerry Anderson school of broadcasting (motto: I'll take breathers where I like) but they give off a so-whatish listlessness that is as boring as it is boorish. However silly Radio 1 was before, the feeling behind it all was that this was a laugh: now it seems it's all just a drag.

I suppose this is partly out of a sense of embarrassment about the Smaistie and Nicey days (and this is why,

Radio 1 needs
DJs who like the
sound of music

I'd guess, the DJs now don't prattle to each other quite so uninhibitedly and partly because it probably isn't as much fun. Being a Radio 1 DJ isn't as hip as it would have been 20 years ago.

I cannot fail here to sound



NIGELLA LAWSON

station is after. And that must be linked to another difficulty. When I was in my teens the pop audience was really no bigger than a generation and a half. Now it goes up just about to 60-year-olds. And a larger pop audience, especially when pop has been so fragmented, is harder to please. As in politics, so in pop: Single-issue music has taken over.

Radio 1 is trying to keep everyone happy, and the emphasis on youth gets in the way. It didn't have a remit when it started: having one now isn't helping. I think it should just get people on who like playing records.

Standards of sleaze

THE SLEAZE muse seems to be on something of a learning curve. First — such an age ago it seems — it was a sacking offence and then only if you couldn't get your resignation in quickly enough.

Now sleaze has reached its apogee as something to be welcomed — a sort of fashion accessory for the man who has nothing. On the front page of yesterday's *Sun* are pictures of the country's two most famous boring men: John Major and Jason Donovan. The one seems to have been a toyboy — that's toy as in "Dinky" I imagine — to a "divorced mum 13 years older than him" some 30 years ago; the other has snorted a couple of lines of cocaine. Will the Prime Minister deny his romance? Will Jason repolish his purposefully tarnished image? I think not. It all smells like a put up job to me.

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If you were reading this in our new Club Europe

J.P. 11.15.50

If British doctors are old-fashioned, are their textbooks to blame? Sifting the evidence, Dr Thomas Stuttford sounds a note of caution

Are our doctors dangerously out of date?

BRITISH doctors often pride themselves, sometimes misguidedly, on their conservatism in a medical rather than a political sense. Increasingly this contrasts with the interventionist approach of American medicine.

At a recent international conference in Lisbon on the treatment of malignant disease, worrying figures were presented on the difference between the survival rates of American patients with cancer of the prostate and those in Britain, where less radical procedures are preferred. Likewise, in general practice hundreds of thousands of lives in Britain must have been put at risk, even sacrificed, because of the reluctance of British doctors to treat hypertension (high blood pressure) adequately. Only recently have stan-

dards of treatment long since accepted elsewhere become the rule here.

Dr Ian Chalmers, of the UK Cochrane Centre in Oxford, attributes some of the sins of omission or commission in British doctors to standard textbooks that advocate procedures so outdated as to be dangerous. He quotes two examples: the textbooks' condemnation of the use of antibiotics in measles, a policy which when carried to extremes must, as he says, have cost lives; and the lukewarm welcome given by the textbooks' authors to the thrombolytic agents (or clot-

busters) for the immediate treatment of a coronary thrombosis.

In most viral infections, including measles, antibiotics do not immediately affect the course of the disease as they have no influence on the initial symptoms. But in the elderly, frail, undernourished and for those who for some other reason have a poor immune response, the early use of antibiotics may prevent secondary, sometimes lethal, bacterial infections.



Antibiotics therefore have an important place to play in the treatment in many, but not all, infections which have had a viral origin. There are many instances in which the sequelae of an upper respiratory tract infection (or flu) have been allowed to run rampant for weeks because of the belief that if an infection was initially viral antibiotics would not be of any value.

Clot-busters are destined to have an equally important role in saving lives but

their use is as yet a hospital-based treatment.

Dr Chalmers may attribute a laissez faire approach to medicine to the inadequacies of textbooks; but textbooks will always be out of date by the time they are published. Their use must be supplemented by reading the journals.

Others prefer to blame the lack of advances in treatment on a medical philosophy which puts too great a faith in nature's healing power. Those who remember pre-war general practice will not fall into that trap. But today there is a

new restriction: cost. Doctors are being asked to practise simultaneously as physician and accountant, to balance their patients' speed of recovery, or even survival, against profits for the fund-holding practice, the local hospital trust and the NHS budget. Sometimes the prescription of some drug or some long-since outdated procedure can only be accounted for, if not justified, on the grounds of saving money.

Doctors who want to serve their patients need to read journals as well as textbooks and to attend lectures regularly. Then, eschewing political correctness from the right or left, they must do what is best for the patient's health — the only decision which their education has fitted them to take.



Four years after his heart attack Sir Peter Imbert plays golf once a week and exercises regularly. A decade ago he would have retired early and been treated like an invalid

Sir Peter Imbert, 61, the former Metropolitan Police Commissioner, is considerably fitter than far younger men. He walks many miles every week, plays golf, regularly travels to India, Russia and Australia and now, among many advisory and consultancy roles, chairs the security committee of the National Lottery. None of this is surprising, perhaps, for an ex-police officer, but just over four years ago Sir Peter was taken to hospital after a heart attack.

A decade ago, perhaps, that would have been the last we would have heard of a public figure who held the most important policing job in the country. He would have retired gracefully and treated himself like an invalid. But recent research on heart disease has shown that this is the wrong approach. Many prominent heart-attack patients, such as Michael Heseltine, Sir Robin Day and John Cole, have shown that it is possible to return to demanding positions.

How I walked back to health and fitness

Sir Peter Imbert tells Aileen Ballantyne the secrets of his recovery from a heart attack

"I know people with the same problem I have who were once told they would 'never be the same again'," says Sir Peter. "Because they believe it, they are not. Your mental attitude to recovery is the most important thing."

Sir Peter continued as Metropolitan Police Commissioner for two years after his heart attack. In all, he served five and a half years before retiring six months after the normal length of time for the job. His ability to go on — and his continued good health — are not an accident; they are the result of recent discoveries about the importance of moderate exercise after a heart

attack and Sir Peter's determination to incorporate them into his daily life.

"I'm in no doubt that the reason I had a heart attack in the first place was my lifestyle. I was having too many dinners and lunches, working long hours and taking hardly any exercise. I quite often did two television appearances a day and on the day of our annual report I did 21."

Being near a large modern hospital when a heart attack happens is an enormous advantage. When Sir Peter had his — at 4.45pm on October 29, 1990 — he was being driven by a police driver after riding his horse in a rehearsal for the State Opening of Parliament. The driver switched on the siren and flashing blue light tucked behind the front grille of the Commissioner's Jaguar and, in spite of rush-hour traffic, they were at St Thomas' Hospital within minutes.

There he was given an injection of a clot-busting drug to dissolve any clots that might

have built up in the coronary arteries. Studies have shown that this treatment given as soon as possible after a heart attack greatly reduces the damage done to the heart muscle, and has cut the number of deaths from heart attacks in hospital by up to 50 per cent.

Like many people who have had a heart attack, Sir Peter now takes a low dose of aspirin every day. Aspirin is thought to make certain blood cells less "sticky", thus reducing the blood's ability to clot. He also takes angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors daily, which improve the blood flow to the heart.

In January 1991, Sir Peter underwent a form of bypass surgery which involved connecting the left internal mammary artery — which normally supplies blood to part of the chest wall — to the diseased artery in his heart, providing a new blood supply to the affected area. Bypass surgery at least doubles the

chances of survival for over five years after an attack, and for someone like Sir Peter, in whom the mammary artery can be used, the success rate is thought to be even better.

Six months to the day after his heart attack, Sir Peter returned to his job a stone and a half lighter. "I've managed to keep most of that off and I know from the regular checks I have at St Thomas' that I'm fitter than the average person my age."

He keeps his weight and cholesterol level down by following a low-fat diet most days. This consists of a breakfast of porridge, skimmed milk and honey, and main meals of fish and vegetables. "It tastes wonderful because my wife is a great cook — but I miss cheese and onion sandwiches and fruit cake."

He is a regular after-dinner speaker and often eats out. If asked, he opts for "vegetarian, low cholesterol", but as often as not he eats what is put in front of him but avoids cheese and chocolate.

His approach to exercise is now highly disciplined. Sir Peter walks two miles on a

walking machine at home at least twice a week, and exercises his dog for at least 45 minutes three times a week. Once a week he also plays golf.

The question of reduction in working hours and stress levels is less clear cut. When Sir Peter was preparing to return to work he vowed to delegate more, but found that in practice some things could not be delegated. "When there are questions, as leader of the organisation you have to stand up and either take the blame or put the facts straight."

But perhaps the most important decision affecting his recovery from a heart attack was one he took some 40 years ago: he admits to coveting the image of the pipe-smoking "thinking policeman" when he was an aspiring young detective in his twenties. "The problem was that I couldn't speak with the pipe in my mouth. It went out when I took it out of my mouth only to light up again in my pocket. I gave up after two months."

Smoking is the most important factor in accelerating the artery-clogging process of heart disease.

He admits that having a heart attack changes you forever. He appreciates his four grandchildren — three of whom were born after his attack — more than he thought possible, and takes pleasure in simple things such as exercise. He is also determined that none of this will become an obsession and prevent him from living a completely normal life.

"It's a bit like golf really," says Sir Peter. "It's all a matter of playing your percentages."

From the cradle to criminality

What makes a violent criminal?

Dr Simon Wessely on research that throws new light on this question

There are few more controversial areas of research than the causes of violent crime, which so often come down to polemics on the lines of nature versus nurture.

Simple genetic explanations, such as the claim that violent males had an extra Y chromosome, are now discredited. Nevertheless, more careful work has continued to support the idea of a genetic contribution. Much of this research has taken place in Scandinavia, not because the Swedes or Danes are more violent, but because those countries possess superb data systems, including twin registers, essential for the conduct of proper genetic research.

Studies comparing identical and non-identical twins, and also the outcome of adopted children, have provided convincing evidence of a modest genetic contribution to crime. Another line of inquiry has looked at the effect of early brain damage, such as might be acquired at birth, and found a link with later violent crime.

Nowadays nobody would claim that either genetics or brain damage is the cause of violent crime or that social factors such as the family environment are unimportant. There is no doubt that the ways parents deal with their children plays a crucial role in the development of criminal behaviour. Modern researchers no longer ask the question of nurture versus nature, but instead how nurture influences nature — what factors are involved in the pathways from birth to later criminality.

A report in the latest issue of *Archives of General Psychiatry* provides one answer. Adrian Raine and colleagues at the University of Southern California have studied all the 4,269 males born at the maternity hospital in Copenhagen between 1959 and 1961. The Danish hospitals keep meticulous records of the circumstances of delivery and any possible complications. One year later all the children were followed up and further information obtained on the home and family circumstances.

The research team then linked this information with the Danish National Criminal Register, which records all police contacts and criminal convictions for all Danish citizens. By the age of 19, 16 per cent of the males had a criminal record, with 3 per cent having a conviction for a violent offence.

Dr Raine, who comes from the North East of England, thus created a unique opportunity to study the links between birth complications, family environment and later violent criminality. He first found

that those who had experienced birth complications alone did not have an increased risk of violent offending.

Those whose birth had been normal, but had suffered parental rejection, which the researchers defined as either an unwanted pregnancy, failed attempts to abort the pregnancy, or the infant being sent to a public institution in the first year of life, were also no more at risk.

However, those who had both a difficult delivery and then had experienced parental rejection were substantially more likely to end up with a conviction for violent offences. Furthermore, difficult deliveries combined with parental rejection was associated later only with violent crime and not crime in general.

This research is a milestone in understanding the links between early environment and later behaviour. The authors postulate that birth complications result in early, albeit

slight, brain damage that is associated with difficulties in learning and with self control. These might lead to later difficulties at school, and then with employment.

Problems start to develop if this predisposition is linked with a disruption to the normal process of bonding between mother and child. Poor early bonding may be associated with later difficulties in emotional relationships, and a reduced capacity to express and feel affection. It is the combination of the early damage to the central nervous system succeeded by further disruption in the normal development of personality and feeling that is important.

Writing in this week's *British Medical Journal*, David Farrington of the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge, and Professor Jonathan Shepherd, a Cardiff surgeon with an interest in the effects of violence, conclude that although much of the research on crime prevention has concentrated on the availability of weapons and better protection of premises and vehicles, early interventions, such as increasing family support and preschool education, are also effective in reducing later offending.

The new research from Denmark adds to the case that increasing the care-giving skills of parents at risk might also intervene to break the links between biological predisposition and later violent offending.

Dr Simon Wessely is senior lecturer in psychological medicine at King's College School of Medicine.



Simple genetic theories are now discredited

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Major's three steps to Euro peace

Bruce Anderson offers the Conservatives a middle way

John Major made a good speech on Friday: he set out a position on Europe which most of his party could accept. Morale rose. Then what? Within hours the Euro wrangling had resumed.

No wonder Mr Major is exasperated, but it is partly his fault. Despite Friday, despite the Frost interview, the Leiden speech and his *Economist* article, he has still not answered all the questions. Nor has he given ministers a Euro hymn-book, with different tunes for differing tastes but all following the canons of orthodoxy and from which all must sing.

To reunite his party, Mr Major will have to do three things: deal with the linked questions of a single currency and a referendum; gently box the ears of the extremists on both wings; and set out his own vision.

Many Tories are becoming ridiculously over-excited over a single currency, as if the issue had to be resolved before Easter. But far from detailed proposals being on the table, there are not even any on the horizon. If the single currency does emerge — still an "if" — it is unlikely to be much before the end of the century. No British government could be in-

use it. In 1985, we wanted the single market. Last time, we were keen on enlargement. Those were expensive items, for which we had to pay. But this time, all we want is less of the same. So we could contemplate the possible failure of the conference with equanimity. It would be far better to reduce the summit to rubble than to agree to a bad deal.

If there were to be a rubble-strewn result, it would not lead to the breakdown of our relationship with the EU. It would simply mean that the negotiations would restart later on a more realistic basis.

Any such outcome would cause Ted Heath, Geoffrey Howe and Hugh Dykes great distress. No outcome which does not have that effect will be acceptable to the rest of the Conservative Party. Upsetting Sir Edward may not be a sufficient condition for a good European policy; it is certainly a necessary one.

Sir Edward, Lord Howe and their allies think that they are working to strengthen Britain's position in Europe. In reality, they are sabotaging it. If the British people — and the Tory party — came to believe that the only alternatives were federalism or withdrawal,

they would ultimately opt for withdrawal.

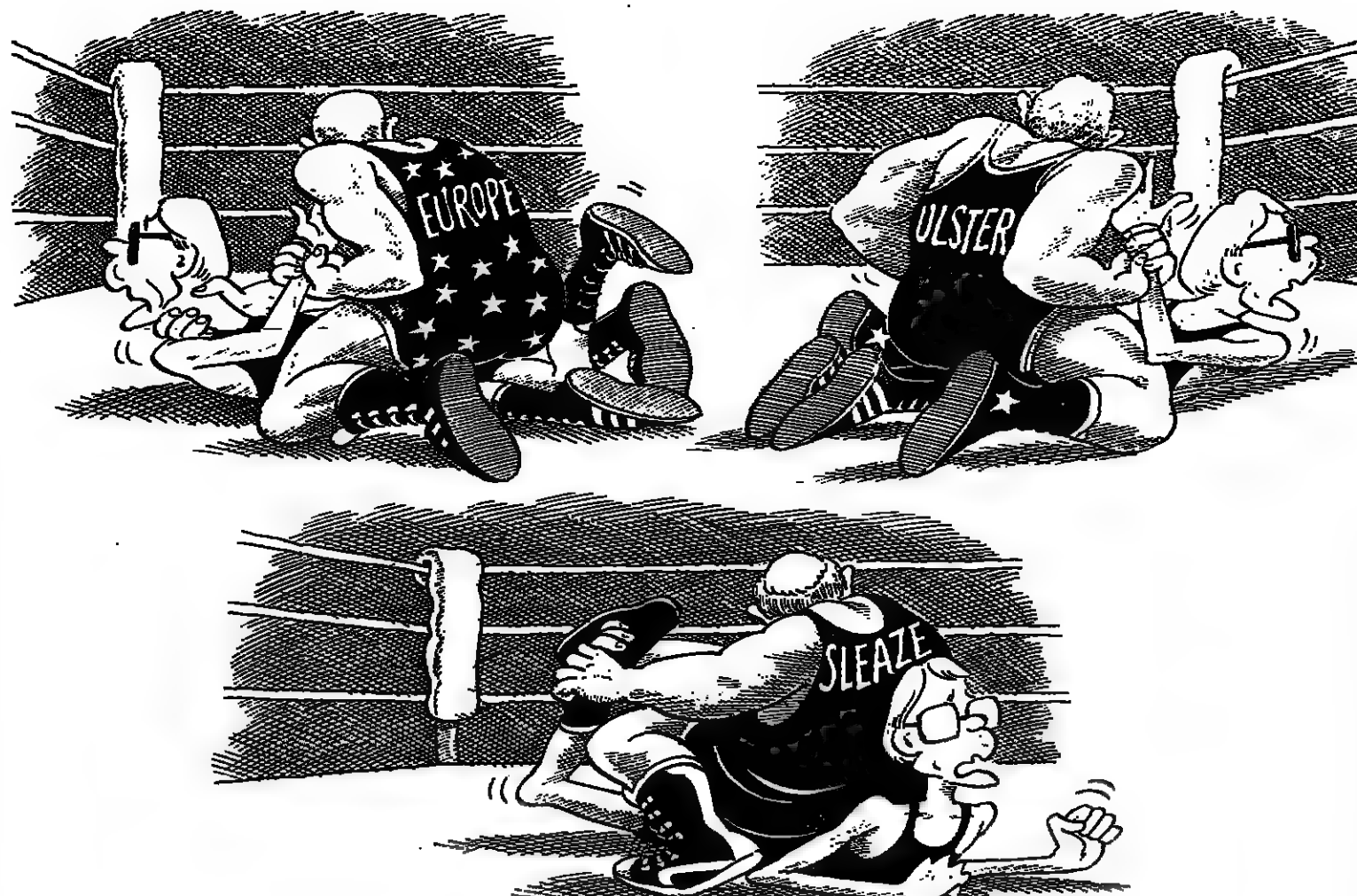
But it is possible to rescue the European cause from the fanatics. There is a Euro ideal available, to which Britain could respond, and which is far more worthy of the legacy of Monnet and Hallstein than is bureaucratic navel-gazing in Brussels.

This new Euro ideal has two aspects. The first is work. Europe cannot work unless Europeans are working, so job-creation must be at the heart of the EU's concern. The present strategy — regulation, social chapter, high costs — does create jobs. It creates them in the United States, in the Far East, in Britain as long as we have the opt-outs: everywhere except in the countries which apply it, several of which now have catastrophic levels of youth unemployment. If Europe's young are to enjoy the future they deserve, the strategy has to be changed, and British ministers who fight to do so are not being anti-European. They are working in Europe's best interests.

The second challenge comes from the east. In the post-war years, the EEC helped the shattered nations of Western Europe to rebuild their economies and institutions. Now the victims of Yalta have to perform a similar exercise. They may not yet be ready for full membership of the EU, but it is vital to bring them into a relationship, and thereby lock them into the rule of law, democracy and the free market.

That is a Euro cause worthy of loyalty. It is what John Major had in mind when he spoke of being at the heart of Europe. It should be enough to satisfy the Cabinet's Euro-enthusiasts, Messrs Clarke, Gummer and Heseltine. They ought to recognise that it is the best they can hope for. Mr Major could do all this; but he must take a lead.

Upsetting
Ted Heath
is a
necessary
first step



TRIPLE LOCK

7 # 95
Peter Brookes

Because it is the law

However high feelings may run, talk of rights cannot override legal freedoms

I thought I should have nothing more to say on the subject of "animal rights" after I had expended some 1,500 words on the matter, but to my own surprise I find myself going back to the story only a few weeks later. My first article was devoted to the organisations whose members threaten violence against anyone who takes a contrary view of this complex subject. Let me quote something from my previous article, to set the scene. From an anonymous source (no martyrdom for them) I read this:

We are capable of dealing with anyone. No one has died yet, but that time will come. For now we have to make their disgusting lives hell so they won't want to live.

I digested that charming billet-doux, and continued:

When I read those words, my mind flashed back — I would guess many people's would — to Jews being rounded up in the earlier days of Nazism, when it did not need much persuasion to know that those using such language would not stop at making their victims' disgusting lives hell, but would in time extinguish those disgusting lives altogether.

So far, their wishes have not come true, but it is surely only a matter of time. Only a few months ago, bombs were planted in Harrogate and York; their intended targets, were charity shops for the Cancer Research Fund. Only a few weeks ago, William Walsgrave (the minister dealing with the vexatious problem) was sent razor-blades in his post. Alastair Palmer of *The Spectator* has counted, over a period of two years, 29 incendiary bombs and 42 letter bombs; in addition, there have been 61 packages containing razor blades, packed to injure anyone opening them. (There must have been tremendous joy among them on the day that one of their bombs went off and seriously injured a child of 13 months, a joy somewhat dampened when they found that the child had not actually been killed.)

As I have pointed out several thousand times, the animal rights gangs have no interest in the well-being of animals: who has ever seen an animal rights taker taking a dog to the vet, or binding up the paw of an injured cat? (When, for instance, they broke into a fur-farm and released all the animals, they knew, but did not care, that the animals would all suffer a fate much worse than

that they would have had from the furriers.)

Very well; these things happen. But why am I coming back to the subject so soon? It is because there is another layer to this argument, and a layer very much more important than the one concerning the well-being of the animals. When the original row broke out, concerning the condition of the calves who were destined for the French and Belgian plates, it was impossible to distinguish those kind-hearted people who were truly horrified at the animals' fate from the thugs whose only wish was to cause as much havoc as possible. Indeed, after a time, many of the kind-hearts withdrew, rightly thinking that their cause was being stained.

But in the mêlée, something happened — something much more important than whether the calves were treated well or badly. The law was broken. And it was broken by people — hundreds, if not thousands of people — who would not take a single penny from a millionaire unless the millionaire said that they could, and by people who would not drive six inches at 31 miles an hour if the traffic sign said 30, and by people who would in no circumstances drop a sweet-wrapper on the pavement, and by people who would run away immediately if anyone suggested that it would be fun to tap a tambourine (very gently) after, say, half-past-eight in the evening.

Yes, the law was broken, but if these people, law-abiding from their heads to their heels, feel it right to break the law (only the special law, mind, not the laws which forbid us to rob banks, to get drunk in the streets or to smash the windcreens of parked cars), because animals may somewhere be suffering, well, then, it is obvious that they are right in their beliefs. And, therefore, armed with genuine righteousness, they broke the law. And who shall say that that is wrong? Me.

I cannot put it better than did

Robert Bolt in his play *A Man for all Seasons*, so I won't try to, and instead I quote. The play is about St Thomas More, and Roper, his son-in-law, is urging More to actions that might save More from the scaffold. Here is the exchange

More: The law, Roper, the law. I know what's legal, not what's right. And I'll stick to what's legal... What would you do? Cut a great road through the law to get after the Devil? Roper: I'd cut down every law in England to do that!

More: Oh! And when the last law

was down and the Devil turned round on you — where would you hide? Roper, the laws all being flung? This country's planted thick with laws from coast to coast — Man's laws, not God's — and if you cut them down — and you're just the man to do it — if you really think you could stand upright in the winds that would blow then?

Now look at a few results of the contemporary Ropers and what they have done with their immovable certainty that they are right and everybody who disagrees with them is wrong. What about Mr Ernest Oliver, who is 73?

The wharf-owner at the centre of demonstrations against live animal exports... was... under police guard after he fired warning shots over the heads of militant demonstrators who tried to tear down the gates of his country home and hurled lumps of concrete at the house... "A hundred of them turned up, screaming and shouting... They terrified my wife and me, smashed the house gates and broke down two security gates... The next day the local council had the cheek to tell a public meeting there had been peaceful protest outside the house."

The clue is not the shouting and throwing lumps of concrete: it is the words of the councillor. He condemned the violence, as those in charge of these things must, but he did not condemn the annoyance and trouble that those who want to go

about their own business are suffering. And, much worse, the peaceful crowds have ruined businesses altogether and been proud of doing so. Hear the headlines (oh, yes, you can hear the headlines in this business): "Protesters claim victory in battle over animal exports." And underneath the sinister — yes, sinister — words, we read: "The owner of Brightlingsea wharf in Essex is putting his dock business up for sale..."

And I tell you that unless this trend is reversed we are on the slide to the destruction of our laws, and ultimately our entire world. Why must the owner of Brightlingsea dock sell it, when his business there is perfectly legal? Why? Because the peaceful mob will not let him, and I say again that unless the peaceful mob is dispersed, we are done for.

The excuses for breaking the law pour out: the animals are being ill-treated; ordinary people, having nothing to do with the thugs, are joining the marches in tens of thousands, so they must be right; if the owners of docks and wharves are using them for transporting the animals, then they have only themselves to blame if they are ruined; yes, we are breaking the law, but we claim a higher law.

Amid the noise, a Mr Benet Steinberg reminded us, in a letter to *The Times*, of what we should not have forgotten:

...The defence of mass picketing which puts fear into those legitimately going about their business, and can lead to mob violence, reminds me of the vessel words used at the time of the mass pickets at the Grunwick plant and the Omgrove coking plant. If it was right for the country and Government to support the police in those two conflicts, it is right for us to give our support to the police now. Or is it the fact that it is largely middle-class people, not striking miners, who are causing the trouble which deprives the chief constables of vicious public and political support?

For all its trappings and majesty, the law is a fragile instrument, and if it is broken — in whatever cause — something very much more important than the trappings and majesty is lost. Our law is the lifeblood of our democracy, and we live under the law's shadow. Through the centuries, our law has been, however imperfect, the one thing that has stood the test of time. Shall we break it now? I tell you that if you do so, you will never be able to put it together again.

Bernard
Levin

Acting up

WE CAN EXPECT high drama when the Princess of Wales takes to the High Court next week in the battle over photographs of her exercising in a west London gym. The gym's owner, Bryce Taylor, who is being sued by the Princess, is taking acting lessons in preparation for the court case.

Along with his lawyer, Razi Mireskandari, he has booked appointments with former Royal Shakespeare Company actress Leone Mellinger, who is currently appearing in *Women of Troy* at the National Theatre.

Taylor is planning to visit Mellinger for lessons at the weekend, before the court case starts on Monday. His lawyer has already made a promising start. "He approached me," explains the actress, "I am teaching him communication techniques. He will need these when he goes in front of the cameras." The course involves relaxation and breathing lessons, self-analysis using video cameras, and confidence-boosting sessions.

The Princess has also, apparently, been specially coached, and would be the first member of the royal family to appear in the witness box since 1891. But she is

said to have flung down the gauntlet: "I feel very strongly about this," she was reported as saying yesterday. "I am prepared to fight it to the last fence."

The world's media are on tenterhooks, says Taylor's publicist Max Clifford. "It's the nearest Britain has got to the O.J. Simpson trial. I'll have to hire the Albert Hall for media briefings at this rate."



Leone Mellinger: adviser

●Peterborough's Evening Telegraph declared its "spot the ball competition" void this weekend and is refunding all entrants — because the ball was left in the picture.

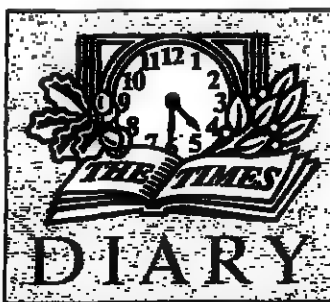
Booting up

MICK JAGGER has become an unlikely champion of the "green welly" brigade. The Rolling Stones, who are currently in Rio de Janeiro on tour, have placed a bulk order for Hunter Wellington boots with their manufacturer, Gates Rubber, in Dumfries.

Two separate orders came in: the first for 40 pairs of the company's Hunter blue boots, the second for a further six pairs customised with Rolling Stones embossed studs to be attached to buckles on the boots. "We're not sure what they want them for," says a company spokeswoman. "But I do hope they'll be wearing them on stage."

Other means

THERE IS an alternative after all. Lady Thatcher's childhood home is to be turned into an alternative health clinic. The counter behind which Margaret Hilda Roberts helped to weigh out prescriptions as a gawky teenager will remain as



an attractive feature, along with a mural of 10 Downing Street as a backdrop.

The clinic is being set up by New Zealander Simon King, and is the latest incarnation of Alderman Alf Roberts's corner shop. Until recently it was the Premier Restaurant, featuring a Margaret Thatcher menu with Downing Street soup. That closed because of a lack of custom.

Next month, however, there will be acupuncture, nutrition and other alternative therapies. "The history of the shop did have a certain attraction," said King, a former chiropractic lecturer. "The clinic reception will be in the Thatcher's old front room."

●Optimistic that England would square the Ashes series in the Perth Test, the MCC introduced a new service for members. A large TV

screen was erected at Lord's, and full English breakfast was served. After yesterday's humiliating England batting collapse there will be leftover sausages this morning.

Table talk

LONDON is to have a new political nerve centre, at the Piccadilly Circus end of Regent Street. Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Ken Follett, bottle-poppers and party-givers to the Conservative and Labour parties respectively, have both become backers of chef Bruno Loubet's long-awaited new restaurant, L'Odeon.

IT'S THE YEAR OF THE GREEDY PIG



Their £750 subscriptions entitle them to £1,000-worth of credit when the restaurant opens in early summer. Among 200 others in the "Founders' Club" are John Sessions and Cameron Mackintosh, but Loubet is looking for more. I understand Liberal Democrats are in particularly short supply.

Viler viola

AUDIENCES at the Royal Festival Hall should brace themselves for the London Philharmonic's return to base after its tour of South Africa. A multi-coloured instrument, more suited to New Age travellers and Rastafarians than to leading orchestra players, could be tucked under a viola player's chin.

The conductor Franz Welser-Möst was presented with the luminous stringed thing at the start of the tour yesterday by its sponsor Nedbank. It was decorated by an art student in singing African colours, as a symbol of the fusion of European and African cultures. A member of the Soweto String Quartet delivered a witty rendition of South Africa's two national anthems, whereupon a member of the orchestra promptly scraped out *God Save the Queen*.

P.H.S

Poorer without politicians

Lord Young says former ministers enhance business

Gordon Brown woke up one morning with a big idea: that former ministers should be barred for five years from employment by companies for which they have had responsibility. It is an idea that has paid short-term dividends for his party — but not for the future of government. What I and many others are becoming increasingly concerned about is the effect of his continuing assault on former ministers and civil servants entering the world of business.

The Nolan committee will look into the propriety of the behaviour of MPs, as well as the behaviour of lobby groups. During my time in Government, we all knew who the lobby groups were and which members had special interests, and as a general rule ignored much of what they ever said. Indeed, in my view, the clients of the parliamentary lobby groups waste their money. But my concern is not with Members of Parliament. It goes far deeper.

Nor is this a defence of my own position. Accused at first of privatising Cable & Wireless (which was done five years after my time), then of regulating the company (Cable & Wireless operates overseas and is not regulated here: Mercury is regulated by Ofcom, not the Department of Trade and Industry), I was told in the end that having been in the DTI and the Cabinet, I should not go back to my old life. One of my predecessors as chairman of Cable & Wireless was not only in the Cabinet but was Deputy Prime Minister — in a Labour Government. If working in a department should be a bar for five years, as Gordon Brown now maintains, then, since the DTI in my time concerned itself with everything from the City to manufacturing industry, I should have to be unemployed or become a farmer!

But do we actually want full-time professional politicians who have done little but practise politics? Surely we should encourage more knowledge about how government works in the wider world, not least in one of a very few who have moved from businesses to the Civil Service, then into the Cabinet and now back again to business. I know just how little business knows of government; and even more worrying, I know just how little most civil servants and ministers know about business. Yet it is business that creates the wealth of the nation.

The biggest insult is the implication that moving from one to the other is somehow corrupt, a job given as a reward for past favours. Yet gratitude hardly exists in political life. Then if not gratitude, the implication, officials and ministers must be so venal that they sell inside knowledge to equally corrupt companies. The detailed knowledge that any official or minister may have on leaving his post becomes obsolete after a few weeks. What endures is the years of experience of the ways of government. That is of real value — but of value to the efficient working of government just as much as to industry. Other countries do it differently. The Japanese call it "the descent from heaven" when their senior civil servants retire, waiting an interval before becoming senior advisers to business houses. The French Civil Service makes sure its best and brightest go into industry after the age of 40, to the advantage of both government and industry. Washington is full of people in government for a few years before returning to academia or the private sector. Indeed, I got the idea of doing the same thing myself from American friends.

For many years, the Diamond committee has been regulating the time senior civil servants must wait after retiring before taking on any job. When I retired, my Permanent Secretary retired with me. He went to the Diamond committee and three months later had three directorships. I waited 15 months, but my joining Cable & Wireless was accompanied by howls of rather synthetic outrage. I only wished that I could have gone to the same committee, for I suspect that I would have been cleared far sooner.

Many of my former colleagues retired in their fifties, and an increasing number of civil servants are taking early retirement as well. Are we to be deprived of all this talent and experience? Some, in both worlds, will wish to retire completely, but many want to work on. We do not have so much human capital that we can afford to waste any.

The Nolan committee must look into the interchange between government and business, for civil servants as well as ministers. After the rather cynical campaign over the past few years, there is now public disquiet where none should exist. The committee must devise a way to make it easier, not harder, for people to move between the increasingly polarised worlds of Whitehall or Westminster and commerce or industry. The process must be taken out of the political bear-garden. If this campaign carries on for much longer, we will find few people from industry willing ever to spend time in government. Government will then be much poorer. In the long run, so will we all.

The author was Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, 1987-89.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 6: The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this afternoon chaired an Industry and Commerce Group Meeting at Buckingham Palace.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 6: The Duke of Kent this evening received Sir Nigel Broomfield, Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

Birthdays today

Mrs G.T. Banks, former Registrar General for England and Wales, 62. Lord Belwin, 72. Mr P.W. Bennett, former chairman, W.H. Smith and Son Holdings, 78. Mrs Caroline Bingham, writer, 57. Lord Bottomley, 88. Miss Dora Bryan, actress, 71. The Earl of Cork and Orkney, 85. Mr Gerald Davies, rugby player, 50. The Earl of Harewood, 72. Mr Tony Hunt, management consultant, 75. Mr Ian Jack, Editor, *The Independent on Sunday*, 50. Mr Michael James, writer and nuclear energy adviser, 54. The Hon Peter Jay, writer and broadcaster, 58. Lord Keith of Kinkel, 73. Mr D.R. Langslow, chief executive, English Nature, 50. Sir John Leary, diplomat, 67. Sir George Moseley, civil servant, 70. Sir Philip Myers, former Chief Constable, North Wales Police, 64. Mr David Park, author, 82. Earl St Aldwyn, 45. Mr R.W. Watson, former Director-General, NFU, 69.

Dinners

Royal Society of St George
Sir Colin Cole, President of the Royal Society of St George, presided at a dinner held last night at the Naval and Military Club to mark the 43rd anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne. Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps and President of the Westminster branch of the society, and Mrs Mavis Linton, chairman of the society, also spoke.

Bankers' Club
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the sheriffs, was present at the annual dinner of the Bankers' Club held last night at Guildhall. The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the principal speaker. Sir Robin Ibb, president, was in the chair.

Athenaeum
Dr Tom Sutcliffe was in the chair at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Professor Richard Gregory was the principal speaker.

Two Cities Dining Club
Mr Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for National Heritage, was the guest speaker at a dinner of the Two Cities Dining Club held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel, Westminster. Mr Kenneth Dibbon presided.

Service dinner

The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons)
The Regimental Dinner of The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons) was held on Friday, February 3, at the Balmoral Hotel, Edinburgh. General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie was in the chair.

Luncheons

Newspaper Conference
Mr Howard Davies, Director-General of the CBI, was the guest of honour and speaker at the annual luncheon of the Newspaper Conference held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr Frederick Hockworth, chairman of the conference, presided.

Rotary Club of London
Mr John Parker, President of the Rotary Club of London, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the London Marriott Hotel. General Paul Rader, Salvation Army, was the speaker.

Meeting

Royal Over-Sea League
Lord Mervyn de Bunsell was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Sea League held last night at Over-Sea House, St James's. Mr T.S. Lansley presided.

Prince to be patron

The Prince of Wales has agreed to be British Patron of UNO, the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.



Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive of Kingfisher, is 53 today

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit The Queen's Flight at RAF Benson at 2.15.

The Princess Royal, as Chancellor of London University, will attend the opening ceremony of the scientific open day at the Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, WC1, at 2.00; and, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend a dinner for prospective donors at 9 Hays Mews, W1, at 6.45.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President of the British-National Society, will attend the annual dinner at St Columba's Church of Scotland Hall, Port Street, at 7.15.

The Duke of Kent will visit the Central Criminal Court at the Old Bailey at 12.40.

The Duchess of Kent will open Bowley Regis Hospital, Moor Lane, Warley, at 11.45; as Patron of Common Hospices, will open the Bradbury Day Care Centre, Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, at 1.30; and, as Patron of Unicef UK, will attend a private viewing of paintings by David Lewis at the Mail Galleries, SW1, at 6.30.



Ashmore, a Limonsell bull, receives last-minute beauty treatment before the Perth bull sales which began yesterday

Latest wills

Lord Bonham-Carter, of London W11, Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman in the House of Lords, left estate valued at £168,434.

The Hon Luke Asquith, of London SE22, former banker with Kleinwort Benson, left estate valued at £150,462.

Mr George Edgar Sowden, of Sandstead, Surrey, cardiologist, left estate valued at £228,996.

Major-General Reginald John Gray, of London SW20, former Director of Medical Services, UK Land Forces, left estate valued at £259,831.

Sir James Taylor of Farnham, Surrey, an explosives expert, a former director of ICI and deputy chairman of the Royal Ordnance Factories, left estate valued at £1,278,007 net.

Mr John Edward Wiley, of Broad Campden, Gloucestershire, former non-executive director of the Grand Metropolitan Group, left estate in the UK valued at £3,759,678 net.

Mrs Ruth Palfreyman, of Sheringham, Norfolk, left estate valued at £6,252,861 net. She left £8,000 each to Norma Witherby and her husband, Mr John Witherby, in lieu of her share of the residue of her estate.

Mr Douglas David Seligman, of Crawley, Sussex, left estate valued at £3,871,017 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Mr Douglas William Brown, of Kingston upon Thames, E15, £1,576,088.
Eileen Evelyn Watts, of London SW6, £1,019,963.
Beryl Graham Cameron, of London NW3, £1,573,635.

Mrs Nester Mabel Elizabeth Connell, of Dedham, Essex, £1,204,521.
Geraldine Cadden, of Sidmouth, Devon, £911,385.

Mrs Elsie Daniel, of Great Dunmow, Essex, £1,079,611.
Mrs Philippa Mary Scofield Jeffery, of Towstree, Northants, £1,789,333.

Miss Betty Patricia Eileen Brome Keenleyside, of Eastbourne, East Sussex, £1,052,540.

Tourist venues enjoy record year as Britons spend again

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

BRITAIN'S biggest tourist attractions reported record visitor numbers last year and expect another good year in 1995.

Despite the disruption of rail strikes and fine summer weather which lured Britons to the beach, admissions at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London were up by 34 per cent, and at Blackpool Pleasure Beach by 16 per cent last year.

According to a report from the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions, the 24 top attractions had more than 80 million visitors between them — an average 5 per cent increase.

The association says new investment and marketing is beginning to pay off. However, its chairman John Lee, a former Tourism Minister, said that without more government funding British tourism would slip behind the rest of the world in the battle for overseas visitors.

He said: "Tourism is one of the world's fastest growing and most competitive markets and governments in other countries are going all out to encourage their tourist industry, lowering VAT and setting aside even larger promotional budgets."

The top attractions have spent over £100 million building new facilities, upgrading existing ones, and mounting exhibitions. The V&A's three major displays last year — on Fabergé, Pugin and Streetstyle (fashion) — brought in 309,000 extra visitors, increasing attendances to 1.4 million.

Kew Gardens invested in an

advertising campaign for the first time, emphasising the peace and tranquillity it offered. Attendances, which had fallen because of the recession and after an increase in admission charges in 1989, rose in 1994 to 980,800, up over 5 per cent on 1993. Tourist numbers at the Tower of London, where the new Jewel House opened before the peak season, are expected to have increased by 8 per cent last year to reach 2.48 million.

The Tussauds Group yesterday released its 1994 figures showing visitors to Madame Tussauds and the London Planetarium rose by 7.4 per cent to 2.6 million. The group spent £21 million redeveloping the waxworks and is devoting a further £42 million to the London Planetarium, due to

reopen in the spring. The group also owns Blackpool Pleasure Beach, where visitors rose by one million to 7.75 million. A spokesman said the building of a £12 million roller coaster had been "the best boost for tourism in 100 years".

Mr Lee said the shop at Buckingham Palace had done well and London Zoo's fortunes were "at long last starting to turn the corner" after a new marketing campaign.

He added: "We had marvellous weather during the peak summer months which led people to seek free outdoor entertainment in the countryside or on the beach."

"The record figures achieved by many members show that purses and wallets are being opened again."



The new roller coaster at Blackpool Pleasure Beach helped to boost visitors to 7.7 million last year

Appointments in the Church

The Rev Barrie Gauge, Director of Parish Development (Cheshire), now also an Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral.
The Rev David Good, Curate, Pontefract, to be Priest-in-charge, St John the Baptist, Dutton Priors, All Saints, Neanton; Burwarton; St Peter and St Paul, Cleobury North; St Michael and All Angels, Aston; Botolph Claydon, Wymondley; Loughborough (Hereford).

The Rev Bruce Harry, formerly Assistant Curate (NSM), St Mary, Eastham; now Assistant Curate (part-time), St James and Emmanuel, New Brighton (Cheshire).
The Rev Andrew Holford, Assistant Curate, St Benedict's, Northampton; to be Vicar, Christ the Carpenter, Dogsthorpe, Peterborough (Peterborough).

The Rev David Howard, Vicar, St Bartholomew's, Binley, Coventry; to be also Area Dean of Coventry East (Coventry).

The Rev Judith Hunt, Assistant Curate, Heswall; to be Priest-in-charge, St Edith, Shocklach and St Mary, Tilsam (Cheshire).

The Rev Timothy Kaye, Rector, St Michael's, Stone and St Saviour's, Asen (Lichfield); to be Vicar, All Saints, South Kirby (Wakefield).
The Rev Martin Lowles, Vicar, St Paul's, East Ham (Chelmsford); to be Team Rector, North Huddersfield Team Parish (Wakefield).

The Rev Eileen Lloyd, Curate, Hereford South Wye Team Ministry; to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary, Bucknell; St Mary, Chapel Lawn; St Mary, Llandair Warendale; St Michael, Stowe (Hereford).

The Rev John Maskell, Stowe Chaplain, RAF Wyton, Huntingdon; to be Priest-in-charge, united benefice of Olverton v Boughton (Southwell).

The Rev Glensy Mills, Curate, Christ Church v Emmanuel, Clifton (Bristol); to be Priest-in-charge, Great and Little Abington and Hildersham, and Chaplain of the Arthur Rank Hospice, Cambridge (Ely).

Senior Forces appointments

Admiral Sir Jack Slater to be Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord in July 1995, succeeding Admiral Sir Benjamin Bathurst.

Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Boyce to be Second Sea Lord and Commander in Chief Naval Home Command, in the rank of admiral, in May 1995, succeeding Admiral Sir Michael Layard.

Air Marshal Sir John Willis to be Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff, in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, in April 1995, succeeding Admiral Sir Jack Slater.

Memorial service

Mr Richard Langhorne, a memorial service for Mr Richard Langhorne, rugby player, was held yesterday at St George's Cathedral, Canterbury. Canon James Pannett officiated and Miss Louisa York read the intercessions. Mr Stephen Langhorne, father, and Mr David Satchell, of Harlow Butler Ueda, paid tribute. Among others present were:

Mrs Langhorne (mother), Miss Valérie Langhorne, and other members of the family; Mr David Brooks, president, Harlow Butler Club; Mr John Langhorne, members of Harlow Butler Ueda staff and many other friends and colleagues.

Lady Hogg

The life barony conferred upon Mrs Sarah Elizabeth Mary Hogg has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Hogg, of Kettleborough in the County of Lincolnshire.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.J. Alexander and **Miss H.V. Macleod**
The engagement is announced between Philip John, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Alexander of Bexleyheath, Kent, and Helen Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roderick Macleod, of Inglestone, Essex.

Mr D. Cooke and **Miss L.R. Hankinson**
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs Brian Cooke, of Little Aston, Staffordshire, and Louise Rebecca, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hankinson, of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Mr S.F. Lawrence and **Dr C. Harvey**
The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of the late Mr L.W. Lawrence and of Mrs M.E. Lawrence, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, and Christine, daughter of Wing Commander and Mrs J.D. Harvey, of Thornton-le-Street, North Yorkshire.

Mr E.M. Griffiths and **Miss A. Pugh**
The engagement is announced between Edward Morgan, youngest son of Mrs Sarah Griffiths and the late Mr G.M. Griffiths, and Anya, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.F. Pugh, both of Dyffryn Ardudwy, North Wales.

Mr N.R. Moody and **Miss N.J. Ball**
The engagement is announced between Neil, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Moody, of Harriesham, Kent, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Ball, of Ashgrove, Isle of Wight.

Marriages

Sir Michael Turner and **Mrs I. Fear**
The marriage took place in London, on February 4, between Michael Turner and Ingrid Fear.

Mr R.M. Ayres-Smith and **the Hon Rebecca Mackay**
The marriage took place on January 28, 1995, at St Peter's Church, Watson's Bay, Sydney, Australia.

of Mark, only son of Dr and Mrs Robert Ayres-Smith, of Sydney, and Rebecca, youngest daughter of Lord Tansley, of London, and Mrs Edmund Capon, of Sydney.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Thomas More, humanist and statesman, Chancellor 1529-32, London, 1478; Henry Fuseli, painter and writer, Zurich, 1741; Charles Dickens, novelist, Portsmouth, 1812; Sir William Huggins, astronomer, London, 1824; Sir James Murray, philologist, Donholm, Berwick, 1837; Alfred Adler, psychiatrist, Vienna, 1870; Sinclair Lewis, novelist, Nobel laureate 1930, Sauk Centre, Minnesota, 1885.

DEATHS: James Stewart, 3rd Earl of Moray, murdered at Donibristle, Fife, 1592; William Boyce, organist and composer, London, 1779; Ann Radcliffe, novelist, London, 1822; Henry Neale, poet, committed suicide in London, 1828; Joseph Sheridan LeFanu, novelist, Dublin, 1873; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, Paris, 1894; Daniel François Malan, Prime Minister of South Africa 1948-54, Stellenbosch, Cape Colony, 1959.

William Lloyd smashed the 1st century Portland vase at the British Museum, 1845.

185 people died when HMS Orpheus was wrecked off the coast of New Zealand, 1842.

The main group of the Dead Sea Scrolls was discovered, 1947.

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

He who is not with us is against us, and he who is not with us is against us.
Matthew 12: 30 (GOS)

BIRTHS

AUER - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Auer, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Auer, of London.

BOUTLY - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Boutly, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Boutly, of London.

BULL - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Bull, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Bull, of London.

BUTCHER - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Butcher, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Butcher, of London.

CHAPMAN - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Chapman, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Chapman, of London.

COLFER - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Colfer, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Colfer, of London.

DE NARDI - To Lucy (nee De Nardi), a daughter, born to Mr and Mrs David De Nardi, of London. A daughter, born to Mr and Mrs David De Nardi, of London.

GERSTEN - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Gersten, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Gersten, of London.

GORDON - On 2nd February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Jane (nee Day), a son, born to Mr and Mrs David Gordon, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Gordon, of London.

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DEATHS

BARK JONES - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Bark Jones, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Bark Jones, of London.

HOARE - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Hoare, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Hoare, of London.

HOWELL - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Howell, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Howell, of London.

LYNE - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Lyne, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Lyne, of London.

LYON-SMITH - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Lyon-Smith, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Lyon-Smith, of London.

MACDONALD-SUCHMAN - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David MacDonald-Suchman, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David MacDonald-Suchman, of London.

ROBERTS - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Roberts, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Roberts, of London.

SMITH - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Smith, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Smith, of London.

SPAIN - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Spain, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Spain, of London.

TAYLOR - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Taylor, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Taylor, of London.

WATSON - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Watson, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Watson, of London.

WATSON - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Watson, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Watson, of London.

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DEATHS

FRANKSON - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Frankson, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Frankson, of London.

GEORGE - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David George, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David George, of London.

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DEATHS

HEEPS - On 2nd February 1995, peacefully, at home, aged 85 years, Raymond, beloved husband of Lela, and father of John and Mary. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Heeps, of London. A son, born to Mr and Mrs David Heeps, of London.

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HEEPS - On 2nd February

Dear John
no longer

السنة 1365

ARTS 31-33

Caravaggio's Irish masterpiece comes to London

LAW 35-39

Winning essay in The Times Norton Rose M5 Awards

SPORT 40-44

Gooch takes a sorry bow from Test stage

EUROPEAN SUCCESS STORY

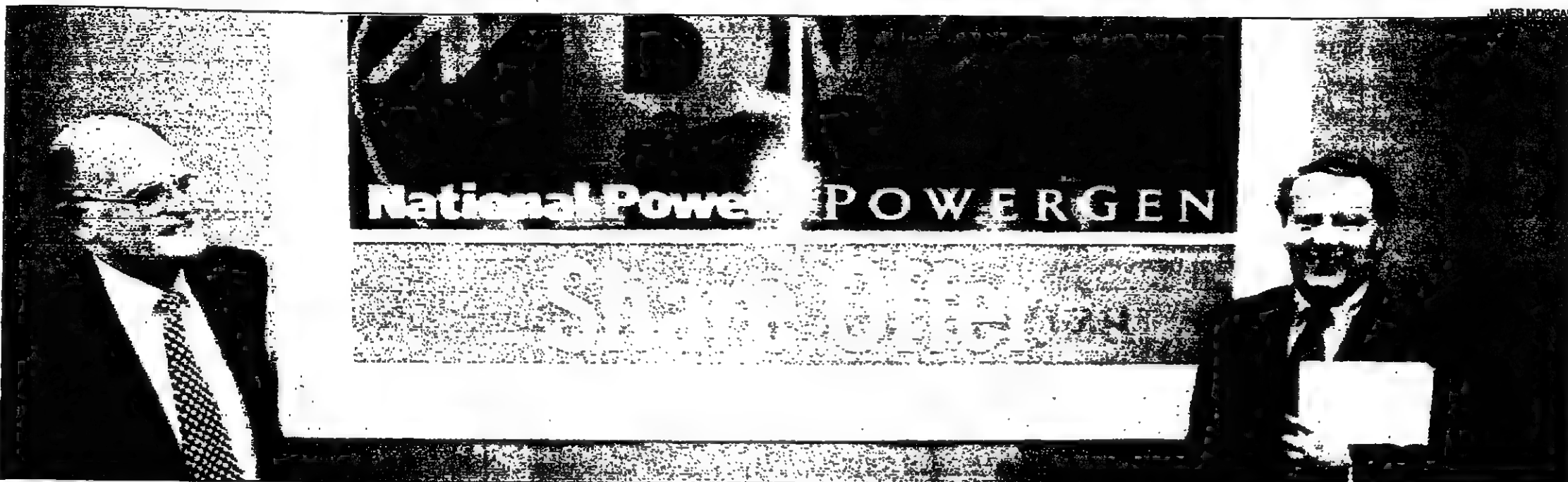
Small business 30

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1995

PowerGen chief defends share profit as prospectus gives 'health' warning



Plugging the sale: John Baker, chief executive of National Power, left, and Ed Wallis of PowerGen at the launch of the pathfinder prospectus yesterday. Mr Wallis said: "Of course I am worth what I am paid"

Options row mars power launch

By MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE cost of investing in the £4 billion sale of shares in National Power and PowerGen was unveiled yesterday, in an announcement overshadowed by "health warnings" over possible regulatory action and a political row over executive share options.

he was one of six PowerGen executives who made a total of £5.3 million on share options last year. The prospectus has also had to highlight the difficult relationship between the two companies and Professor Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator, who has threatened in the past to refer the two to the Monopolies Commission because of their strong position in the power generation market.

Mr Wallis, who ran the gauntlet of a strong contingent of press photographers as he arrived at the formal launch, was asked to justify his £400,000 basic salary and the profits from the options. "I think I am worth what I am paid. Of course I am," he responded. "My pay is independently set—I don't negotiate it myself."

"Part of that remuneration is that the company has done very well and the shareholders have done very well. Given that, I don't think I have anything further to say," he said. Mr Wallis added that he had not cashed in all the £1.2 million in share options that he had received. He said he had been told that he owned "a substantially larger number of fully paid up shares than other people in my position."

latest row on share options, this confirmed that privatisation of the power industry "has amounted to the legalised theft of public assets". The Government has set a minimum investment of about £1,000 in the public offer of the shares, which is mainly aimed at the retail investor. The public is being offered a minimum of 120 National Power shares and 80 in PowerGen.

dividend forecasts for this financial year. PowerGen is paying a 10p final, making a 15p total, up 18 per cent from 1993-94, while National Power's final of 11.1p makes a 15.45p total and a 24 per cent increase. A deadline of next Tuesday, Valentine's Day, has been set for registration, which entitles the investor to incentives and preference in allocation in the event of heavy demand. Payment for the shares will be in three instalments over 18 months.

Pennington, page 25
Share options monster, page 27

Laura Ashley cuts jobs

By SUSAN GILCHRIST

LAURA ASHLEY, the fashion retailer, is shedding 200 jobs in a shake-up aimed at attacking the group's traditionally high cost base. Half of the job losses will be in Britain, with the remainder in America and The Netherlands. Only management and administrative positions are to be cut.

British Gas and Argentina in Falklands talks

FROM EVAN DYER IN BUENOS AIRES AND ROSS TIEMAN

BRITISH GAS has held preliminary talks with potential partners about exploring for oil in the South Atlantic. Any decision to proceed will hinge on agreement over ownership of resources between Britain and Argentina at a summit next month.

that YPF and British Gas had jointly bought geological studies on the area and had simultaneously handed a written proposal to their respective governments. The report proposes that the two countries divide royalties if and when the oil proves profitable.

Motor industry blames new car sales slump on mortgage fears

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

SALES of new cars fell for the fourth consecutive month in January, and motor industry executives fear that interest rate rises will arrest the industry's recovery.

stump on private buyers refusing to risk savings or to take out new credit on cars at a time of uncertainty over higher mortgage payments.

manufacturers—Ford, Rover and Vauxhall—suffered from a drop in their January sales in spite of widespread incentives on a range of models.

brought in from overseas, accounting for 58.9 per cent of the new cars sold in January. BMW was at the forefront with sales up from 4,869 last January to 6,214 this time; the 3-series model jumped into the best-sellers' list at number 10.

Fight for new mortgages restrains C&G

By ROBERT MILLER



Longhurst competitive

THE cut-throat competition for new mortgage business has taken its toll of profits at Cheltenham & Gloucester, the building society at the centre of a £1.8 billion takeover bid by Lloyds Bank.

for by the special cash gifts, worth up to £6,000 each, offered as an incentive to take out a C&G mortgage. The society said that, at £3 billion, new mortgage lending was the highest for three years.

figures show the underlying robustness of C&G's business once again proving that Lloyds is not paying a premium for control of the society."

Dear John,
Thanks to your 4.64% fixed rate mortgage, I am no longer outraged each time Mr Clarke raises interest rates.
Yours worriedly,
A Blair

In the face of rising base rates, John Charcol's 4.64% (4.8% APR) mortgage is clearly in the national interest. Fixed until July 1996, it's available for both purchases and remortgages of up to 70% of the property's value. And we can provide up to 95% loans at a slightly higher rate. To increase its popularity further still, we offer no compulsory insurances and provide the full range of repayment options. For a written quotation, call John Charcol on (0171) 611 7000, or Leeds (0532) 470338. Or drop in and see us at 10-12 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 8DD.

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BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES	
FT-SE 100	3062.0 (+2.3)
Yield	4.24%
FT-SE All share	1508.21 (+1.50)
Nikkei	18667.23 (+128.25)
New York	
Dow Jones	3928.31 (-0.33)*
S&P Composite	479.81 (+0.88)*
US RATES	
Federal Funds	5 1/8% (5 1/8%)
Long Bond	98 1/8% (98 1/8%)
Yield	7.55% (7.54%)
LONDON MONEY	
3-month Interbank	6 1/4% (6 1/4%)
Life long Gilt	
Future (Mar)	101 1/8% (101 1/4%)
STERLING	
New York	
\$ Sterling	1.5813* (1.5825)
£ London	1.5801 (1.5843)
DM	2.3881 (2.3854)
FF	6.2740 (6.2770)
Sfr	2.0195 (2.0190)
Yen	154.82 (154.80)
£ Index	79.1 (79.1)
US DOLLAR	
London	
£	1.5802* (1.5820)
FF	6.2560* (6.2550)
Sfr	1.2944* (1.2925)
Yen	99.50* (99.25)
£ Index	82.5 (82.2)
Tokyo close Yen 98.85	
NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent 15-day (Apr)	\$16.85 (\$16.80)
* denotes midday trading price	

Quaker sells pet food business

Quaker Oats, the American food group, is selling its US and Canadian pet food business to Heinz for \$725 million only days after disposing of its European pet food arm to Dalgety.

BA profits soar

British Airways beat most City expectations as strong demand, capacity increases and cost reduction helped third-quarter, pre-tax profits surge 57 per cent to £102 million. This brings the nine months' result to a record £443 million, compared with £300 million last time.

Housing gloom

Starts on new homes in Britain dropped 3 per cent between the third and fourth quarters last year, after adjustment for seasonal factors, as the construction industry responded to persistent flatness in the housing market.

Pennington, page 25

New house starts fall on interest rates gloom

By COLIN NARBROUGH

STARTS on new homes in Britain dropped 3 per cent between the third and fourth quarters last year, after adjustment for seasonal factors, as the construction industry responded to persistent flatness in the housing market.

Provisional Department of the Environment figures, issued yesterday, showed that home starts for the whole of last year rose 9 per cent against 1993 to 201,500, with completions up 2 per cent year on year at 178,900.

Last year's increase largely reflected the buoyant mood in the housebuilding sector. After late spring, however, gloom set in, especially when interest rates started to rise in September. Last week's bank base rate increase is likely to dampen sentiment further.

The DOE data showed that

in the final quarter of last year, housing starts rose 3 per cent higher year on year, but the trend in housing continues to slow, in spite of the strongest December for private sector starts since 1989.

Housing association starts fell after seasonal adjustment in the final quarter last year compared with the previous three months, while public sector starts remained low. Only private sector starts were up, rising 2 per cent.

The Government considers the three-month comparison to be the best guide to house construction, as the monthly data can be highly erratic.

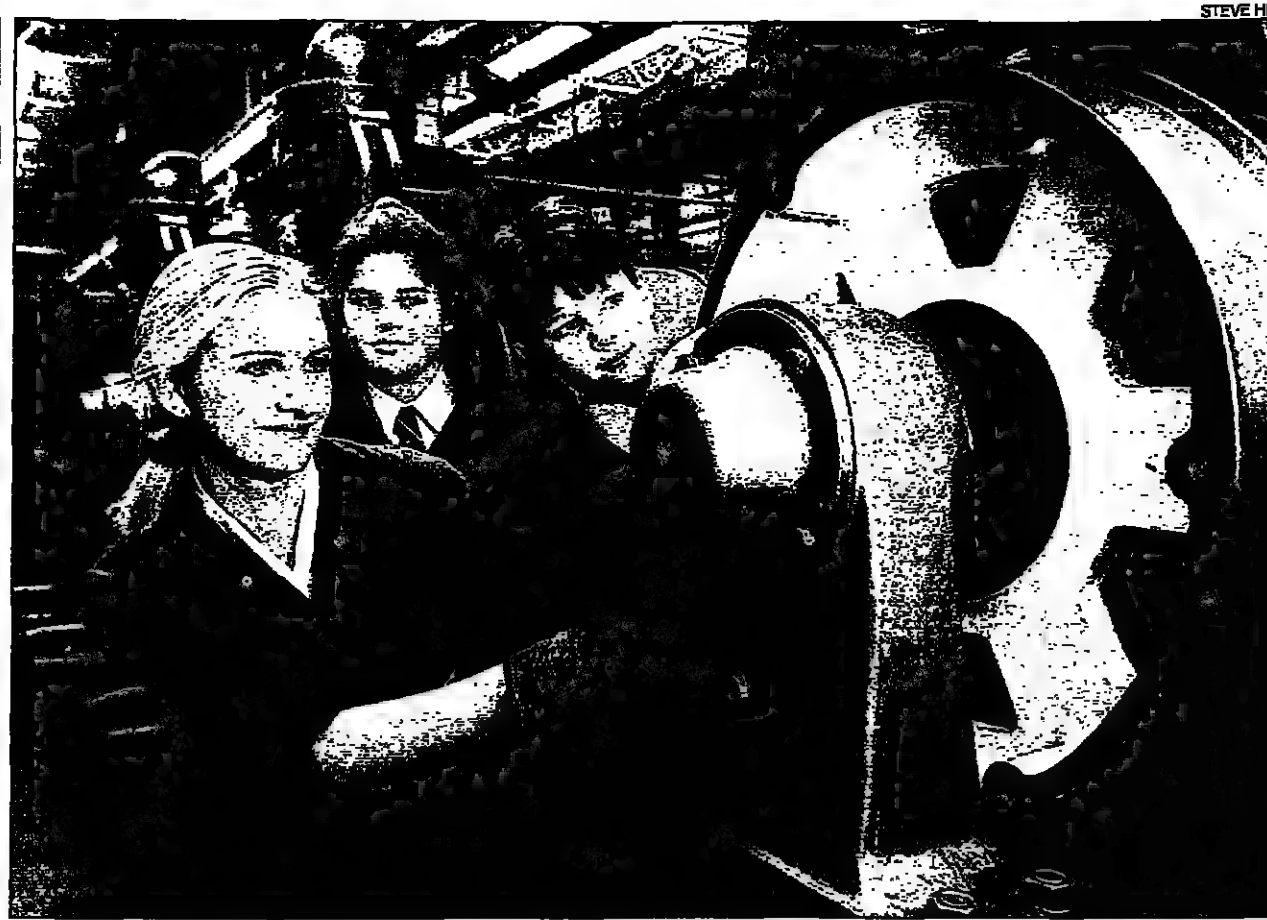
Although builders have had some success in gaining market share for new houses, rising interest rates and changes to tax and benefits have been dampening the whole sector, and starts are expected to drop substantially this year.

The leading building societies' latest reports on the housing market confirmed the continued flatness of the market. Cabinet ministers have given no indication that the Government wants to rekindle it.

Motor industry sales figures, also out yesterday, showed new car sales down 3.7 per cent in January compared with the same month last year. It was the fourth consecutive month in which car sales have contracted year on year.

City analysts took the housebuilding and car data as further evidence of consumers remaining wary about large purchases. They expect overall consumer spending to remain sluggish this year.

However, today's industrial production figures are forecast to show manufacturing output rebounding in December after a sharp fall in November. Growth of 0.6 per cent is expected for overall industrial output in December, reversing some of November's 1 per cent contraction.



Businesses are even busier in classroom projects, and 338 entered the Aim High Awards run by Business in the Community. Winners included BP Chemicals, Port Talbot, with the Mynyddbach School, Swansea, and Express Lifts with Hopping Hill Lower School, Northampton. Pictured are Angela Morris, an Express apprentice, with pupils Stuart Dickie and Martine Landeman.

Scottish Mutual expands

SCOTTISH MUTUAL, the life assurance company acquired by Abbey National three years ago, is to expand into the health insurance market by buying Pegasus, the health insurance specialist, for £8.3 million (Sara McConnell writes).

Ian Gilmore, Scottish Mutual's director, strategic planning, said the group would use the deal to develop private medical and long-term care insurance. Pegasus already has critical illness policies, which pay out on diagnosis of a life-threatening illness, and permanent health insurance policies, which pay out to those unable to work because of a long-term illness or disability.

Lowndes Lambert Group announced yesterday that it is to buy Godfrey Merritt Robinson (GMR), the protection and indemnity insurance brokers, for a maximum of £10 million if GMR meets specified income and profit criteria.

B&Q to expand and create 2,350 jobs

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

B&Q, the DIY chain, is responding to last month's purchase of the Texas chain by Sainsbury's Homebase group with an expansion entailing the creation of 2,350 jobs.

In spite of the intensifying competition in the DIY market, B&Q, a subsidiary of the Kingfisher retail group, aims to stimulate demand by adding in-store advisers who will encourage customers to attempt more ambitious projects. Kingfisher recently pledged a further £50 million to continue its expansion programme.

The expansion plan, detailed yesterday, involves opening at least six new B&Q Warehouse stores, serving small builders and tradesmen, in the current year. Each store, covering more than 100,000 sq ft, will employ 250 staff. There will be 30 specialist staff at each centre, including tradesmen and interior designers. The company also plans to facilitate 20 of its smaller

Supercentres, which are aimed at retail customers, to increase the emphasis on decorative goods, ceramics and kitchens and bathrooms. On average, each will take on 30 more staff. Three more Supercentres will be built, together employing another 250 people.

In total, the company expects to recruit 2,350 new workers to its additional stores, although 70 per cent, or some 1,650, will be part-time. Bill Whiting, managing director of B&Q Warehouse, said the free advice from in-store technical and design experts was aimed at giving customers the confidence to take on DIY projects they would not previously have tackled.

"We think service like this is the key to making us different from our competitors," he said. "And in a saturated market we have to look at opportunities to create more demand."

Court blow to VAT recovery

By ROBERT MILLER

COMPANIES looking to raise more finance through share issues face a collective VAT bill running into millions of pounds after a preliminary ruling by the Advocate-General in the European Court.

The court found in favour of Britain's Customs and Excise department. The case had been brought by BLP Group plc, a UK company that sold the shares of a German subsidiary to raise extra cash. The Advocate-General ruled that Customs and Excise was entitled to prevent the recovery of VAT levied on some of the costs incurred in the sale. BLP Group had challenged the entire UK interpretation of the treatment of such costs.

Robson Rhodes, the accountant, said yesterday that Customs and Excise had generally tried to disallow VAT reclaiming incurred on legal and other professional fees relating to flotations, rights and other share issues. But he added that until the EC ruling, companies had generally found a way of recovering a proportion of VAT on costs.

Nigel Roberts, VAT manager at Robson Rhodes, said: "VAT costs on even a small share issue could be up to £50,000. Customs and Excise is trying to restrict VAT recovery to finance-raising situations. This means that the many companies following the BLP Group example face a huge increase in their expenses, which could deter them from raising much needed additional finance." Mr Roberts added that the Chancellor had already tried to block VAT recovery on share issues in his last Budget.

Halifax buys loans book from BNP

HALIFAX Building Society has completed the purchase of BNP's £1.5 billion centralised mortgage book from its parent Banque Nationale de Paris (Robert Miller writes).

The BNP purchase will double the size of the wholly-owned Halifax Loans mortgage book, which is worth £1.1 billion. The acquisition will also lift the Halifax's share of the UK mortgage market by 0.5 per cent to around 16 per cent.

Mike Blackburn, chief executive of the Halifax, which has 1.8 million mortgage borrowers, said the deal "will further improve our share of the mortgage market in line with the Halifax's mission to become the biggest and the best personal finance business in the UK."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.17	2.00
Austria Sch	17.77	16.37
Belgium Fr	82.78	47.78
Canada \$	2.28	2.12
Cyprus Cyp£	0.777	0.782
Denmark Kr	10.46	8.21
Finland Mk	7.84	7.38
France Fr	6.70	6.06
Germany DM	3.28	3.28
Greece Dr	360.00	360.00
Hong Kong \$	18.70	11.70
India Ru	0.18	0.18
Italy Lit	2015.00	2480.00
Japan Yen	180.50	153.50
Malta \$	0.50	0.50
Netherlands Gld	2.82	2.82
Norway Kr	11.00	10.23
Portugal Esc	207.50	207.50
Spain Ptas	166.67	166.67
Sweden Kr	214.50	200.00
Switzerland Fr	2.15	1.97
Turkey Lira	1.67	0.2150
USA \$	1.57	1.57

Rates for actual conversion bank rates only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to bank transfers, cheques, and all other forms of trading.

Barrick plans gold mining bonanza

By ERIC REGULY

BARRICK GOLD plans to build on its position as the largest gold producer outside South Africa by opening a new mine each year for the next four years, the company said at its annual investment meeting in London yesterday.

Barrick, formerly known as American Barrick, will open one mine in Nevada, two in Chile and one in Peru between now and 1998. It also will look for more acquisitions, even though it is still digesting its \$1.6 billion purchase of Lac Minerals of Canada. Bob Smith, Barrick's president, said the company is negotiating for mining sites in China,

and may even shop in South Africa. Under its current mining plan, Barrick, whose fortunes were made at its prolific Goldstrike Mine in Nevada, will experience its greatest growth in South America. Much of the company's expected \$500 million cash flow in 1995 will be spent on developing properties there.

Barrick is the largest player in the rich El Indio Belt in the Chilean Andes. It has two mines at El Indio and will open a third, the Tambo Mine, in the spring. Another will open nearby in 1997. A Peruvian property, called Cerro Corona, will start producing a year later. Expansion in South America marks a departure for Barrick, because it has avoided

political risk and stayed in the US and Canada. Now it cannot maintain growth without overseas operations.

Barrick said that its gold reserves at the end of last year increased almost 44 per cent, to 44 million ounces. Gold production in 1994 increased by about 700,000 ounces, to 2.3 million ounces. Net income rose 17 per cent, to \$250.5 million on turnover of \$954.5 million.

Andaman Resources, the former Irish gold mining group, has sold its 24.9 per cent stake in Fleet International, a specialist software company, for an undisclosed sum. The company wants to concentrate on Southern Markings, its core road-markings business.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, CHANCERY DIVISION, IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985, CHANCERY DIVISION, LONDON.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 23rd January 1995 presented to the High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named company from £100,000 to £25,000. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on Wednesday 15th day of February 1995. ANY Creditor or other person claiming to be affected by the said Petition, or desiring to oppose the confirmation of the reduction of capital, should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requesting the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the Petition of £100.00. DATED this 2nd day of February 1995.

Constant & Constant, of 50, Cannon Street, London EC4A 3DF, Solicitors for the above-named Company.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Bid speculation over MAI SelectTV stake

LORD HOLICK'S MAI, the money-broking television conglomerate, has taken a 4.19 per cent holding in SelectTV, the programme-maker responsible for the comedies *Birds of a Feather* and *Lovejoy*. In what speculators believe to be the prelude to a full bid, Shares in SelectTV, which has a 15 per cent stake in the southern England Meridian TV station, 61 per cent owned by MAI, climbed 2p to 24½p when the holding, bought through a nominee company, was uncovered.

A spokesman for MAI said the holding was "an investment" but could not say if it had been uncovered by means of a section 212 notice, used by companies to detect hostile or secretive shareholders. The two companies were in conflict a year ago over their joint holdings in Meridian. The row blew up over MAI's purchase of another regional independent TV company, Anglia, and the extent to which the possible cost savings from putting this with Meridian would flow through to the various shareholders. MAI is refusing to say whether its stake in SelectTV is hostile, while the latter was unavailable for comment.

Eastern cuts charges

EASTERN ELECTRICITY, part of Eastern Group, is cutting the standing charge for its three million domestic and small business customers by about 20 per cent, at a cost to the company of £30 million. From April 1, the normal quarterly standing charge will fall to £7.02, from £9.10. Small business users will see pro rata cuts to standing charges. The cuts arise from a requirement by Ofwat, the regulator, that Eastern cut 8.5 per cent of the total it is allowed to charge for distribution.

Low & Bonar sale

LOW & BONAR, the packaging group, has sold Bonar Bibby & Baron, its consumer bag business, to a management buyout team for its £2 million book value and the repayment of £6 million net debt. The company makes polythene and paper consumer bags for retailers. The buyout was backed by a consortium led by Candover, the buyout specialist, which invested £2.2 million, the management, Gresham Trust, Lazard Ventures and Royal Bank of Scotland.

Trencherwood ahead

TRENCHERWOOD, the housebuilder, increased its profits by 17 per cent, to £2.1 million, in the year to October 31, helped by a 52 per cent rise in sales, to £23.3 million. The company reduced its borrowings by £3.3 million, to £22.3 million, and sold 244 land units, an increase of 30 per cent. Trencherwood has 6,411 plots in its land bank, of which 5,567 are under option. It expects further rises in housing sales this year. The company is not paying a dividend.

Bryant buys EFG land

EFG, the garden centre and horticultural products group, has confirmed the sale of ten acres to Bryant Homes for £3.5 million plus half of future sales of houses on the site above £9.80 million. The site is 7.9 acres of EFG's Nightingales Garden Centre, near Pulborough, West Sussex, and 2.1 acres adjoining it. EFG said that the deal, the final hurdle of a two-year disposal programme, would lift net assets by at least £1.38 million, to £8.91 million, or 19p a share.

NAB acquisition

NATIONAL Australia Bank, which owns Yorkshire Bank and Clydesdale Bank, is paying \$1.5 billion in an agreed bid for Michigan National Corporation. It is funding the acquisition from internal resources. Bill Irvine, NAB chairman, said the immediate effect on NAB's earnings per share would be negligible. Michigan National had total assets of \$8.7 billion, and in 1994 earned an after-tax profit of \$171.7 million, including some significant abnormal profits.

UCM's American deal

UNIVERSAL CERAMIC MATERIALS has lined up its first acquisition since its flotation last summer. UCM is paying up to \$4 million for Taheto, an American fused magnesia manufacturer, which it took out an option to buy in December. UCM, already the largest supplier of magnesia to the North American electrical heating element market, also makes aircraft engine coatings and lens polishing materials. The shares, floated at 80p, closed unchanged at 96p.

Arcadian offer closes

ONLY 23 million of 40.7 million shares in an open offer and placing by Arcadian International, the hotels and leisure group chaired by Sir Peter Parker, have been taken up by shareholders. The balance was placed with institutional investors. The offer was seven for every 12 held at 37p, 1p below yesterday's closing price. Most of the £13.8 million proceeds will fund the acquisitions of two hotels.

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UBS Limited

Authorized £	Number	In Ordinary shares of 1p each	Warrants	Issued and fully paid Number
5,600,000.00	560,000,000	4,019,200.15	401,920,015	22,024,348

Copies of the Exempt Listing Document may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday, Saturdays and public holidays excepted, up to and including 9th February, 1995 from the Company's Administrative Office of the London Stock Exchange and up to and including 21st February, 1995 from the following:

Care UK Pic
Crown House
Stephenson Road
Sevenalls Park
Essex CO4 4QR

UBS Limited
100 Liverpool Street
London EC2M 2RH

7th February, 1995

Coopers & Lybrand PLC AWARDS

in association with The Times

VOTING PAPER

Please tick one box for each category

COMPANY OF THE YEAR

- ☐ Ashted Group
☐ Taylor Nelson
☐ Sheriff Holdings
☐ First Technology

NEW COMPANY OF THE YEAR

- ☐ Applied Distribution
☐ Trifast Group
☐ Dominick Hunter
☐ Finlist

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

- ☐ Chris Ingram (CIA Group)
☐ David Lloyd (David Lloyd Leisure)
☐ Tim Martin (JD Wetherspoons)

Complete and send voting paper to:
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Coopers & Lybrand,
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* Nominations must be received not later than Friday, February 17

071-481 1920

□ Not-so-hidden risks in generators' float □ Moving to a fancier gilt-edged market □ C&G's rise in expenses out of character

Light in the dark of a power cut

THE GOVERNMENT owes to Ed Wallis of PowerGen a debt that is worth more than a few insignificant share options. The latest row over his pay and benefits, although a rehash of information already in the public domain, has focused attention away from the fairly dire warnings that had to be inserted into the generators' prospectus.

As things stand, the two companies have two clear choices. They can live off to competitors, probably coming from outside the UK and therefore straying onto their patch for the first time, a large chunk of generating capacity at whatever price these assets can fetch. Those competitors do not need to invest in Britain, but the generators do need to sell, a classic example of a buyers' market.

Otherwise, the two can put their industry through a wearying, time-consuming and potentially damaging Monopolies & Mergers Commission inquiry that could result, as with British Gas, in dismemberment.

The middle course is some form of plant sale that would not disadvantage the generators but would be permissible to the industry regulator. But it could prove impossible to steer. National Power, at least, has put one such deal to Professor Littlechild at the Office of Electricity Regulation, apparently suggest-

ing a sale of plant that would continue to be tied in some way, but this approach has failed. The Professor wants a clean break.

National Power's next option is to demerge 4,000 mw of plant into a separate quoted company, but this is not achievable by the end of the year, Offer's sell-off deadline. The company will therefore, presumably, be in default of Offer's ruling by, or shortly after, January 1.

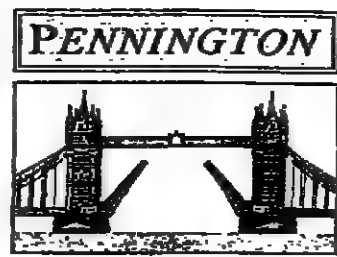
PowerGen prefers some sort of asset swap with Continental parties, but the prospectus states even more baldly that there will be "significant difficulty" in matching its own plans to the objectives of the regulator. Professor Littlechild, already smarting from accusations of impotence in his control of the industry, may not be in conciliatory mood by the start of next year. The whole thing could end up in the European Court of Justice if the generators claim that leaving the second biggest player in the market, the Government-owned Nuclear Electric, out of any MMC inquiry would be discriminatory.

Still running is the row over high pool prices, which could provide a parallel and earlier route to the MMC. In a telling attempt to duck the issue, John Baker, Mr Wallis's counterpart at National Power, said yesterday he had no expectation of an MMC reference "this year". Next year might be different.

Potential private investors should be aware of all this. The flotation for them is bound to be a success, a badly-timed and total market collapse excepting, so bedecked are the shares with high initial yields, incentives, discounts and other bells and whistles. Those looking longer term should, however, be wary.

Bank prepares for Big Bang II

IN ITS quiet style, the Bank of England showed the way in the Stock Exchange's first Big Bang. The same thing could be happening again. The Bank will almost certainly soon go ahead with plans for an open market in gilt-edged sale and repurchase deals — or repos. Since anyone could deal with anyone else, this would



PENNINGTON

by-pass the carefully controlled competitive structure the Bank put in place nearly a decade ago. That has operated well, while maintaining useful vestiges of the captive loyalty that stifled the pre-Big Bang system. But the big American and Swiss houses like to do things their own way, and the Bank believes it is more important that they should bring their business to London. So London will have gilt-edged repos and, probably, the ability to strip interest from capital — part of the global trend to bring complex investments and derivatives into the mainstream.

Maintaining London as a financial centre looks a more important motive than trying to cut the cost of Government

borrowing. While the Bank has sensibly rationalised the stock of gilt-edged issues to make more sense within a global bond market, its own doubts over inflation control may have cost taxpayers more than any market imperfections.

The Bank's latest review of the gilt-edged market shows that market-makers lost £60 million last year, even after a profitable fourth quarter. That has not helped the ambitions of the likes of SG Warburg. But the more spectacular mishaps of some American houses show that global complexity is no hedge against calamity.

The repo market, while opening new possibilities for investing institutions and specialists, will lead to more concentration, and more foreign domination. That may enhance London's primacy as a financial centre, but could make it more precarious.

The same trends are visible in raising and trading equities and corporate debt. Old hands therefore expect a second merry-go-round of structural change almost as sweeping as the first. Yet if Warburg, champion of

round one, did not, in the end, quite make the grade, others will think twice before throwing their hats into the ring for round two.

Building societies must recall roots

A PROFITS increase of just 8.5 per cent is not particularly flattering to the management of the Cheltenham & Gloucester, a society with a justified reputation for increasing its share of the mortgage market while keeping its overheads under control.

True, last year was a tough one for everyone selling mortgages. However, for C&G to increase its expenses by some 17 per cent seems out of character. C&G was under pressure to keep its profits as low as decently possible. A big hike would have led to calls for Lloyds Bank to increase its £1.8 billion offer — and there is no chance of that.

Millions of building society customers have, however, a right to expect that any takeover bid should be a fair reflection of what their assets in the society

are worth. The forthcoming Treasury review of the Building Societies Act 1986 is expected to make it much harder for societies to sell assets too cheaply.

The Treasury has made clear that the management of building societies will in future have to be much more accountable to members. This must include more information on potential takeover bids. The Government intends to make sure that even if societies are swallowed up by bigger entities or join the stock market, managers will still have to pay more than lip service to their origins of mutuality. Building societies are mutual companies with assets owned by their members. The intention is that they should remember this long after they have shed their mutual skin and re-emerged in corporate guise.

Cheating on Emu

WHEN the Chancellor sets out non-monetary conditions for a single European currency in his much-heralded speech on Thursday, he should emphasise the need to harmonise labour taxes on employers, which are much higher in France and Germany than in Britain. Under a single currency, countries levying high imposts on labour costs would effectively still be able to devalue by getting rid of them.

Quaker Oats quits pet food market with sale to Heinz

By COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

QUAKER OATS, the American food group, is selling its US and Canadian pet food business to Heinz for \$725 million only days after announcing the sale of its European pet food arm to Britain's Dalgely for \$700 million.

Tony O'Reilly, Irish president and chief executive of Heinz, said his Pittsburgh company's acquisition, with its focus on dog food, would provide a "perfect complement" for Heinz, which is strong in cat food.

He said that it would enable Heinz, whose group turnover of about \$8 billion makes it one of the world's biggest food companies, to double turnover and profit in pet food products.

Quaker, which is based in Chicago, has for some time been considered a takeover target. Its decision to abandon pet foods to concentrate on cereal-based foods and wholesome beverages appears to be part of a strategic defence-building exercise.

On the New York Stock

Exchange, Quaker shares were unmoved by the latest disposal announcement, but Heinz came off more than half a cent.

The deal with Dalgely, announced on Friday, has still to be cleared by the European Commission. If approved, as expected, it will make Dalgely Europe's second largest company in the sector.

In yesterday's follow-up announcement, William Smithburg, Quaker's chairman and chief executive, said that the sale of the North American pet food business was a logical and important step in the evolving realignment of Quaker's portfolio.

He underlined that for the first time in more than half a century, Quaker, one of the best-known names in breakfast cereals, would be entirely dedicated to human foods.

In addition to its breakfast foods business, Quaker is focusing on the Snapple beverages business, which it acquired for \$17 billion in November, and Gatorade, the

drink aimed at the fast-growing sports market. Gatorade sales last year reached \$1.2 billion.

Quaker's pet food business, whose turnover last year was \$540 million, is the second biggest in the North American market for dry dog food, with Kibble's Bits among its top brands.

Almost two thirds of Quaker's pet business is in dry dog food, a market worth \$2.7 billion in America alone. The market leader is the Ralston-Purina group. Other Quaker brands are PupPeroni and Pounce pet treats and Cycle and Gravy Train dog food. The pet food division, which has large production plants in Kansas and Illinois, employs about 900 people.

Although Heinz is best known for baked beans, its pet food sales exceeded \$600 million last year. Its leading brands include 9-Lives, which has a 27 per cent share of the American canned cat food market, and its dog foods included Reward and Skipper.

BRITISH AIRWAYS First Class



Sir Colin Marshall on the up at Heathrow yesterday

British Airways soars past profit forecasts

By SUSAN GILCHRIST

BRITISH AIRWAYS beat even the most optimistic City expectations with a 57 per cent increase in third-quarter profits.

Pre-tax profits soared to £102 million in the three months to December 31, up from £65 million in the corresponding period last year and well ahead of analysts' forecasts of about £90 million.

The increase brings the nine months' result to a record £443 million, compared with £300 million last time. The shares rose 4½p to 374p at yesterday's close.

Sir Colin Marshall, BA's chairman, attributed the rise to strong demand, capacity increases and cost reduction. However, he also gave warn-

ing that price competition in the industry continued to be intense, with yields remaining under pressure.

Yields, the crucial measure of the average amount paid by each passenger per kilometre flown, slipped 0.2 per cent because of a slowdown in the rate of growth in premium traffic, price pressures and adverse exchange movements.

Sir Colin said that prospects were encouraging, with continued growth in demand, and the airline was on track to achieve its £150 million cost reduction target in the current year. Overall operating costs rose 5.3 per cent to £1.5 billion, but unit costs fell 1.5 per cent.

Tempos, page 26

Two futures brokers are banned for life

By JON ASHWORTH

TWO futures brokers have effectively been banned for life from the financial services industry in a fresh clampdown by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB).

Peter James West and Paul Bingham, former directors of Gresham Futures, have been disqualified under section 59 of the Financial Services Act 1986.

Mr West, who was also a director of Overseas Client Services, had been fighting attempts by the SIB to publish a report on his conduct by the Financial Services Tribunal. He applied for an injunction on Saturday to restrain the SIB from publication. The application was refused. The tribunal found Mr West guilty of rule breaches, including unauthorised investment business and falsifying documents. He had exposed clients to risk and fallen "far below the standard of being fit and proper", it said. The tribunal said of Mr Bingham: "Those wishing to carry on investment business must tell the truth. Mr Bingham gravely violated these standards."

Fisher in buyout of importer

By PATRICIA TEHAN

ALBERT FISHER, the food company, is to take a 60 per cent stake in Aqua Star, by taking part in its management buyout from BP Nutrition. Albert Fisher is putting in \$5.4 million in cash and the management of the firm is investing the firm's net assets of \$3.6 million.

The new partnership is part of Albert Fisher's attempt to expand its seafood operations in the North American market. Michael Gorton, Aqua Star's president, and Robert Hooley, its executive vice-president, will hold the other 40 per cent.

Aqua Star, based in Seattle, imports, processes and distributes seafood products to retail and food service markets in North America.

Sales of the Aqua Star business being transferred to the new partnership were \$151 million last year, with operating profits of \$33 million. Albert Fisher said that the business will initially have bank borrowings of about \$22 million.

Tempos, page 26

Profits leap 21% at News Corp

By ERIC REGULY

THE News Corporation, driven by improved results from Fox Broadcasting in the US and its British newspapers, which include *The Times* and *The Sun*, last night reported markedly stronger earnings.

The company's after-tax operating profit, excluding exceptional items, rose 21 per cent to US\$500 million for the half-year to the end of December. Turnover climbed 17 per cent to \$4.5 billion.

Including an exceptional gain of \$110 million, profits were \$610 million. The exceptional items included the gain on the sale of part of the company's interest in BSkyB, the British satellite television broadcaster.

Profit before tax and exceptional items rose 15.4 per cent to \$556 million from \$482 million in the period.

The international media group, which is based in Australia and headed by Rupert Murdoch, said the operating profits of its British newspapers increased 13 per cent over the same period last year. "This increase is primarily the result of a gain in advertising revenues from vol-

ume increases at each of the five titles, combined with a 15 per cent rise in ad rates at *The Sun*, *News of the World* and *The Times* in September," the company said in a release.

The American TV division, which includes Fox and eight TV stations, recorded the most dramatic improvements. Operating results in the period were up by 58 per cent.

Earnings from HarperCollins, the publisher, declined to \$63 million from \$84 million in the period. Book publishing was the only division that reported lower operating income. US operations continued to dominate the company. Turnover for the region was \$3.2 billion.

News Corp shares rose substantially yesterday in anticipation of better results and on a ratings upgrade from Jessica Reif, an analyst at Merrill Lynch. Ms Reif put a "buy" on the shares, which climbed about 5 per cent to A\$5.74 in mid-session trading in Australia. "Beginning with the third fiscal quarter, we project a return to double-digit earnings comparisons for the foreseeable future," she said.

MARSH & MCLENNAN COMPANIES

Results for the year ended 31st December, 1994 (Unaudited)

	\$ million (except per share figures)	
	1994*	1993
Total Revenue	\$3,435.0	\$3,163.4
Total Expense	2,764.7	2,570.6
Operating Income	670.3	592.8
Income Before Income Taxes	631.5	558.6
Net Income	371.5	332.4
Net Income Per Share	\$5.05	\$4.52
Dividends Paid Per Share	\$2.80	\$2.70

*Reflects the adoption, effective January 1, 1994, of SFAS No. 112, "Employers' Accounting for Postemployment Benefits."

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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Rivals prepare for more action in Trafalgar battle

THE battle for control of Northern Electric is likely to move up a gear later this week with the Government expected to announce whether or not Trafalgar House's £1.2 billion offer will be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Northern's price traded 3p lower at 955p in ex-dividend form. That compares with the terms from Trafalgar valuing it at about £10.48. Brokers in the Square Mile are becoming increasingly confident that the bid will not be referred, although some conditions may be imposed by the Government.

Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regulator, has already made his submissions to the Office of Fair Trading. It is believed he feels there are no grounds for referring the bid, providing a takeover does not affect the regulation of that particular utility.

As a result, many brokers are pinning their hopes on a statement from Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, sometime this week, giving the bid his blessing. They say that if the deal is given the go-ahead, it could add at least £1 to Northern shares as the market attempts to extract better terms from Trafalgar, 1p dearer at 65p.

Elsewhere, share prices gave up an early lead as political worries returned to haunt investors. Friday's 60-point rise on Wall Street was all but forgotten as attention was focused on the worsening situation for the Government over Europe and the Ulster peace process. Not even some comforting words from Eddie George, Bank of England Governor, at the G7 meeting could inject new life into share prices. Instead, investors chose to pay close attention to sterling's renewed weakness on world markets.

In low turnover, the FT-SE 100 index gave up an early 15-point lead to finish 23 points better on the day at 3,062.0 as a mere 453 million shares changed hands.

LASMO, the independent oil group, which last year fought off an unwanted £1.6 billion bid from Enterprise, a rival, is again attracting the interests of the speculators with the price adding 5p to 150p. For the past few weeks there has been talk that Enterprise, 1p better at 407p, is looking to unload its 10 per cent holding in Lasmo. Shell, up 6p at 715p,



A big shake-up is in store for the Rumbelows chain

is seen as a buyer for the shares before making a full bid. Last week saw heavy turnover in shares of Lasmo.

SelectTV, the independent television production company, hardened 2p to 24p on learning that MAI had picked up 6 million shares, or 4.19 per cent. SelectTV has a 15 per cent stake in Meridian, the south of England independent tele-

vision broadcaster, where MAI also has a 61 per cent controlling interest. MAI, 1p firmer at 23p, described the purchase as an investment.

Better than expected third-quarter figures led British Airways 3p to 375p. Pre-tax profits for the quarter leapt £37 million to £102 million, lifting profits for the first nine months from £300 million to £443 million. Sir Colin Mar-

shall, chairman, attributed the performance to better passenger load factors, and lower fuel costs.

Wellcome, fighting off an unwanted £9 billion bid from Glaxo, eased 1p to £10.17. The group has been given the go-ahead to launch Lamictal, originally launched in Britain in 1991 for use with other drugs, as a monotherapy

treatment for epilepsy. It is the first time a drug has been granted a monotherapy licence for more than 20 years. Glaxo eased 5p to 661p. It is expected to produce interim figures and its offer document later today.

Thorn EMI lost an early lead to finish 1p lower at £10.49 ahead of nine-month figures this morning. The figures themselves are likely to

attract only passing interest. Instead, the real focus of attention will be on Rumbelows, its loss-making electrical stores chain. Dealers say Thorn will today announce plans to close up to 100 of the 293-strong chain, with the remainder converted to a different format. Such a move is likely to dent the figures, which should see pre-tax profits grow from £271.1 million to £300 million.

The City took news of job cuts at Laura Ashley in its stride, with the share price shedding just 1p at 75p.

It looks like the gloves are coming off in the DIY market as the big retailers gear up to increase market share. Kingfisher, which owns the B&Q chain, says it intends to spend £20 million on expansion, creating up to 8,000 extra jobs. B&Q intends to redesign some of its supermarkets and to open a further 50 new giant warehouse stores within five years.

The move by B&Q follows the acquisition by Sainsbury of 240 Texas Homecare DIY stores from Ladbroke last month for £297 million. Sainsbury, which already owns the Homebase chain, eased 1p to 430p. Kingfisher rose 4p to 427p.

Henderson Administration plunged 6p to £10.13 following a profits warning.

Investors had little appetite for Wessex Trust, a newcomer, which ended the first day at 10p.

GILT-EDGED: Gilts were marked higher first thing on the back of former US Treasury bonds and German bunds, but eventually saw their lead whittled away by further selling of sterling and political uncertainty.

In the futures pit, the March series of the Long Gilt traded in narrow limits of £101 and £101½ before closing three ticks firmer at £101½. Demand was low and by the close only 33,500 contracts had been completed.

In the conventional market, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 hardened three ticks to 95½, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 put on a couple of ticks at 97½.

NEW YORK: On Wall Street shares in banks benefited from a modest morning advance based on the perception that the economy was slowing. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 0.33 points down at 3,928.31.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	3928.31 (-0.33)
S&P Composite	479.61 (-0.96)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	18667.23 (+128.35)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	7997.30 (+416.58)
Amsterdam:	
Euro Index	413.42 (+0.85)
Sydney:	
ASX	1862.9 (-15.3)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2089.69 (+31.78)
Singapore:	
General	2124.89 (+14.69)
Brussels:	
General	7137.30 (+20.43)
Paris:	
CAC-40	1872.11 (+29.66)
Zurich:	
SIX Gen	6260.00 (+2.70)

London:	
FT 100	3062.00 (-23.00)
FT 100	3062.00 (-23.00)
FT-SE Mid 250	3395.50 (-2.50)
FT-SE Euroshare 100	1338.28 (+14.00)
FT A All-Share	1506.21 (+1.50)
FT New Financials	1638.57 (+1.78)
FT Gold Mines	203.4 (-3.3)
FT Food Index	105.57 (-4.01)
FT Govt Secs	91.37 (+0.24)
FT Health	222.00
SEAQ Volume	452.28
USM (Domestic)	148.03 (+0.50)
USM (Foreign)	1.5655 (+0.0024)
German Mark	2.3887 (+0.0025)
Exchange Index	79.1 (Same)
Bank of England official rate (4pm)	1.25%
ESR	1.0717
KPI	146.0 Dec (2.9%) Jan 1997-100

RECENT ISSUES

First Russ Fts (£10)	570
Greiner Mic Ind	96
Greiner Mic Ws	41
Lazard Bria Ida	53
Lazard Bria Ida Ws	31
MCTT S Cap (35)	34
MCTT S Inc (35)	36
Matheson Lysds FT (100)	81
Penzer Oil	95
Wessex Trust	107
Woodchester Uts	125

RIGHTS ISSUES

Dares Estates n/p (4)	
Verity n/p (7)	

MAJOR CHANGES

PISES:	
Net Aust Bank	5180 (+15p)
HSCB	671p (+10p)
CRH	570p (+10p)
Blue Circle	282p (+5p)
Stm Darty	143p (+6p)
Accom Computers	91p (+11p)
Bowthorpe	300p (+7p)
Copmore	130p (+10p)
Guthrie	38p (+2p)
Millicent	28p (+4p)
Tadpole Tech	207p (+12p)
Bodycote	324p (+11p)
Huntleigh Tech	488p (+22p)
Brit Biotech	580p (+22p)
Thomson Corp	755p (+25p)
Ranger	380p (+25p)
EPRI	725p (+5p)
Railbone Bns	255p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Schroders	1823p (+12p)
SG Warburg	748p (+13p)
Shorro	104p (+6p)
Inchcape	309p (+6p)
Broken Hill	871p (+13p)
Deputy	414p (+5p)
Henderson Ad	1013p (+8p)
Zarouch	355p (+4p)
Westmough	119p (+7p)
Easer-Furn	570p (+6p)
Land Sec	570p (+6p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

Taking wing at BA

HOW rare for an airline to see its market come right on all fronts: demand from passengers is on an upward trend, fuel costs are falling and airline capacity is growing, but at a lower rate than the growth in traffic. A confident British Airways predicted that the strong demand would continue, but the market only gave the shares a gentle nudge upwards. BA continues to trade at a discount to the market on a one-year view, despite bullish forecasts of 16 per cent growth in earnings in the next financial year.

Investors have already discounted the demand story — well flagged by recent traffic figures from BAA showing 7.4 per cent growth, more or less in line with BA's own passenger growth. Meanwhile, fuel costs are being kept in check with sluggish worldwide oil prices, a trend which is likely to continue, and BA is

committed to cost reductions of £150 million in the current year.

All would be fine without the competition: the recent multi-billion franc rescue of Air France reminded the market that efficiency is a virtue most respected at home. Even in good times, BA is fighting an almost continual price war, and is now taking to the streets with its World Offers campaign. The company is resigned to expecting no real growth in yield per passenger, expecting profits from cost-cutting and volume. Joint ventures are the strategy to gain market share, and even troubled US Air is bringing in \$100 million per year. However, such investments give the airline little opportunity for control, and investors are nervous that BA will be pushed into bigger and more risky investments in the search for more passengers.

Laura Ashley

LAURA ASHLEY'S new regime promised to attack costs and it has certainly delivered. Shareholders will welcome the efforts to improve profitability, but it does not come cheap. A £35 million rationalisation programme which delivers £10 million in annual savings looks poor value for money.

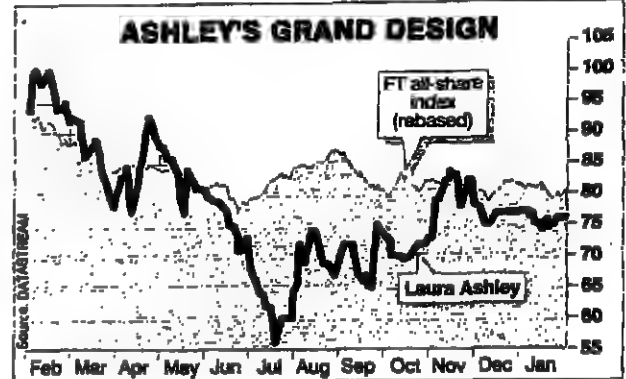
At least the management is moving in the right direction. An absurdly large infrastructure plagued with over-manning has hindered any progress of the bottom line. Last year the group made profits of just £3 million on sales of more than £300 million — an appalling return for a business which sells a premium priced product.

The other significant drain on profits has been the loss-making North American re-

tail operations. Again, the new team is taking action, closing down about 40 small, unprofitable stores and opening larger sites which can carry the full range.

Hugh Blakey Webb, chairman, believes the region will be back in the black to the current year — a promise that his predecessor lived to regret making but

now seems more likely. Shareholders will be less pleased to hear that the group has postponed its search for a new chief executive. Cadbury aside, it can be of little comfort to see the business headed up by Sir Bernard Ashley's tax adviser. The shares are unlikely to spark into life, unless a predator emerges.



Base metals

FEAR and loathing has broken out in the metals markets, with prices of nickel, zinc and tin falling by about 15 per cent since the middle of January and copper and aluminium losing 7 per cent. Investors in equities will scarcely be surprised, though given the poor performance of mining shares over the past four months, with RTZ, the lead indicator in London, losing more than 10 per cent of value since October.

The main culprit appears to be hedge funds. These invested heavily in metals last year, anticipating a sharp recovery in prices due to increased demand from North American manufacturers. At the same time, producers have been cutting down in a bid to bring historically depressed prices back to profitable levels. Speculators now see prices moving ahead of sustainable growth in demand and investors will be focusing on a

downturn in the commodity cycle, which many believe could be well under way next year.

Signs that base metal prices are cooling should be welcome, and will provide ammunition for those who argue that inflation fears have been overdone. Demand for metals is likely to be stable long-term as manufacturers seek greater efficiencies.

Meanwhile, producers are notoriously prone to overproduction, suggesting more pain before metals prices achieve equilibrium.

Henderson

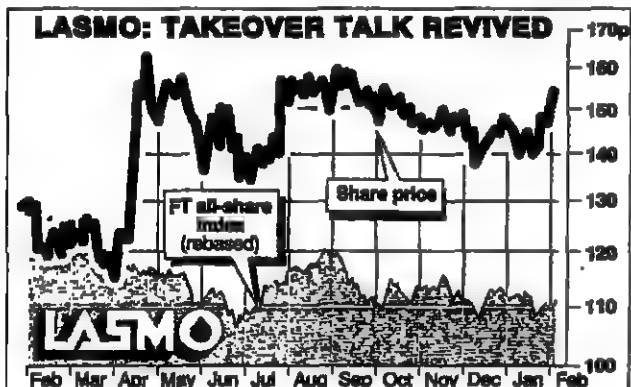
FUND management is one of those win-win and lose-lose businesses, and unfortunately Henderson Administration is stuck in the latter category due to past poor performance. Because fund managers are judged on rolling five-year performance cycles, a couple of bad years can skew performance for a long period. Add to that a year of nega-

diver returns from the equity market, and you have a dog's dinner in terms of profits and revenue.

Poor markets shrink the value of the funds under management and tend to drive off retail investors, although Henderson is claiming advances in its unit and investment trust business, which thankfully earn better rates of return than pensions.

Unfortunately, Henderson cannot do without its pensions business, and it must soon find a way of stemming the client losses which are said to include a local authority and the Lomrho pension fund. Weakness might attract a bidder, but the market is distinctly cool on the logic of bids in financial services, particularly when the bidder is unwelcome. But unless Henderson can shift the dead weight of the past, it may have little choice but to be subsumed in a larger group.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED



COMMODITIES			
LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE			
COCOA			
Mar	999.91	May	1097-1023
May	991.20	Jul	1067-1043
Jul	1022-1001	Sep	1096-1035
Sep	1011-1012	Dec	1096-1067
Dec	1021-1020		
Mar	1028-1027	Volume	4448
INDUSTRIAL COFFEES (C)			
Mar	2870-2860	Nov	2968-2928
May	2960-2940	Jan	2985-2970
Jul	2990-2980	Mar	2990-2970
Sep	3000-2990	May	3000-2970
Dec	3000-2990	Volume	4198
WHITE SUGAR (F0H)			
Resters		Oct	344.5-34.3
Spec 398.7		Dec	342.0-40.0
Mar	340.0-97.1	Mar	338.5-38.0
May	342.0-91.5	May	337.5-34.1
Aug	341.7-70.0	Volume	4266
MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION			
Average slaughter prices at representative markets on February 3			
(kg live)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
G/L	87.56	121.61	119.45
G/H	87.56	121.70	117.79
Exp/Rest	75.24	121.69	119.61
F-1	+5.51	+3.57	+1.67
F-2	+10.00	+21.0	+10.0
Scotland	WGS	119.73	121.65
F-1	-1.0	+1.72	+2.58
F-2	-1.0	+1.72	+2.58
ICE-LIVE (London Live)			
CRUDE OILS (C) (Barrel FOB)			
Brent 15 day	17.08	-0.10	
Brent 15 day (Mar)	17.10	-0.10	
WTI 15 day	16.68	-0.10	
WTI 15 day Intermediate (Mar)	16.40	-0.25	
WTI 15 day Intermediate (Mar)	16.40	-0.25	
WTI 15 day Intermediate (Mar)	16.40	-0.25	
SPR CIP CRACKED (C) (MT)			
Premium Gas 35	16.10	+0.12	16.12
Non CNOI 35C	14.99	+0.12	14.99
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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Accountant's cold knight

JOHN STUTTARD, recently appointed chairman and chief executive of Coopers & Lybrand China and 50 yesterday, is no dry, humourless accountant. For the past decade, he has been dedicated to financial affairs, and yesterday his efforts were recognised when he was awarded the Order of the Lion of Finland, Knight First Class, by the Finnish Ambassador in London. In his time, Stuttard has panned for gold in Lapland, taken part in the Finlandia cross-country skiing marathon, and held business meetings in saunas. He will go to extraordinary lengths to serve his firm's best interests. At yesterday's ceremony he told of his first meeting with teetotaler Heikki Salonen, president of trading conglomerate Amer, which was London stock market bound. "It was decided that the only place he could talk freely about the group's long-term strategy was outside the executive sauna on the roof of the tobacco factory at Tuusula. So there, in the depths of winter, on the roof, we rolled naked in the snow while Salonen's employees made cigarettes in the factory below." Yesterday, Stuttard was dressed, and behaved, as a gentleman accountant at Coopers & Lybrand should — and he didn't once roll on the Ambassador's carpet.

Self evident

CANDIDATE for truism of the week from the Research Board of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. "Ultimately," writes Professor Richard Macve, "what developments are most useful is an empirical question".

POWER GEN



Club call

ARE you now a successful City type, content with your Pail Mail club? Did you ever live in Notting Hill, and once were proud to describe yourself as Bohemian? Want to recall those days? If so, then reach for the prospectus for The Cobden Club which is raising up to £750,000 at £1 a share under the Enterprise Investment Scheme to put life back into the old Cobden Working Men's Club & Institute in Kensal Road, London — "set up by Lord William Cobden in 1882 as part of the Fabian movement to educate the working classes". After refurbishment, the premises will include a 50-seat restaurant, bars, and a 1,500 sq ft entertainment room. Barclays Bank, for one has expressed an interest — and is seemingly not ashamed to be associated with a club whose membership once included certain unsavoury types. Ledger minutes from 1884 note that "while a certain member was dismissed for appropriating a copy of *The Times*, another was merely reprimanded for discharging a fittlock in the club". Subscription lists open tomorrow, and close on March 14.

Broolly good

THE Meridien Hotel, Brussels, part of the Forte empire, has learnt something useful from Europe's recent floods. An umbrella is now de rigueur in all guest rooms.

COLIN CAMPBELL

How industry created the share option monster

As criticism mounts, firms seek a new formula for rewarding executives, reports

Jon Ashworth

Wind the clock back ten years, and you would be lucky to have heard even a whisper about executive share option schemes. They were brand new — a ploy to stop senior UK executives skipping to more lucrative jobs across the Atlantic. It was felt that something was needed to encourage directors to stay at their posts.

Like Frankenstein's laboratory, the experiment has spawned some monstrous offspring. Directors who probably had no intention of going to America in the first place are suddenly earning "bonuses" worth millions of pounds by exercising options granted to them at substantially lower prices in the Eighties. Who can blame your average struggling citizen for suspecting that a rather cosy club mentality has infected our boardrooms?

Ed Wallis, chief executive of PowerGen, has become the latest target in the continuing fusillade over boardroom pay. Mr Wallis and a handful of fellow directors were granted options when the former Central Electricity Generating Board was hived off into PowerGen and National Power in 1991. The value of PowerGen shares increased by 172 per cent over three years, leaving the senior directors with a healthy paper bonus on top of their salaries. Mr Wallis earned £400,000 in salary last year. The share options brought him a tidy £1.2 million.

PowerGen says most of the directors have retained large tranches of their shares rather than selling them — paper profits. In other words — but the mechanism that permits such astonishing windfalls continues to be regarded with suspicion. It has its roots in legislation introduced in 1984 which cleared the way for inland Revenue-approved executive share option schemes. Beneficiaries who stuck to the rules would face capital gains tax, but would be exempt from income tax on any eventual windfall. The Labour Party has been quick to attack this "unjustified" tax relief, and kept up the assault yesterday, claiming that share options worth more than £23 million had been handed out to directors at National Power and PowerGen since privatisation.

Companies rushed to introduce share option schemes after the legislation, and have brought generous dividends. Most schemes at the time were introduced with no strings attached. Directors were given the right to buy a specified number of shares in the future at a pre-determined price, regardless of how the company performed. In simple terms, a director granted shares at, say, 100p, would be free to buy them at that price after a fixed period of time, during which the share price might have risen to 500p. They would be guaranteed an "instant" profit — the difference between the original and current share price. Towards the end of the 1980s, pressure



Soft options: Sir Christopher Bland, top left, and, clockwise, John Robb, Ed Wallis and Lord Sheppard

from institutional shareholders compelled companies to start imposing performance conditions on such schemes. Earnings per share became the typical measure.

The present row over executive pay has homed in on the privatised water and electricity companies, since it is here that the differential between past and present remuneration packages is at its most extreme. Directors earning a relative pittance before privatisation have seen their packages rise fivefold

issued at 83p had soared in value to 458p. Hostile overtures by Granada sent the share price soaring and left 40 directors holding shares worth £75 million. Sir Christopher Bland, former chairman of LWT, originally paid £296,000 for his options. At the time the bid succeeded, he held shares worth £14 million. Greg Dyke, then chief executive, was left with a £9 million stake.

Glaxo's £9.5 billion bid for Wellcome has brought share options back into the spotlight. Six

Wellcome directors stand to make £6 million from share option entitlements. If the offer is successful, John Robb, chairman, could make £1.54 million if he exercised his options and sold them at Glaxo's offer price of £10.35p for each Wellcome share.

Lord Sheppard of Digemere, the chairman of Grand Metropolitan, recently added a new phrase to the remuneration lexicon — phantom share options. It emerged that he was to receive £95,056 in a bonus scheme based on relative share price performance as part of a salary and options package worth £1.34 million. He made a profit of £415,279 from exercising options last year.

The Government has tried to spread the benefits of share option schemes to

a wider audience. Entities such as Abbey National and NFC have made a point of encouraging employees to participate in various special share schemes. Savers with Abbey National were given 100 shares each at 130p when the option to buy more when it came to the stock market in 1989. The shares have since risen more than three-fold in value.

The key weapon in the drive to encourage share ownership in its widest sense is the Save As You Earn (SAYE) share option scheme — promoted as a means of encouraging workers to participate in the future prosperity of their employers' company.

The SAYE schemes give employees the right — or "option" — to buy at a future date a certain number of shares in the company at a price fixed when the option is granted. Employees can pay between £10 and £250 a month over a five-year period into a specially designated bank or building society. During the five-year period the contributions earn tax-free interest or bonus. At the end of the term the lump sum can be used to buy the shares.

Faced with a rising tide of adverse publicity, companies appear to be exploring alternatives to executive share option schemes. One such alternative is the restricted stock plan, under which executives are awarded a block of shares that they cannot touch for a period of, say, five years. If targets are hit, the shares are awarded free of charge.

The mechanism that permits such astonishing windfalls is viewed with suspicion

BUSINESS LETTERS

Putting a price on abandoned offshore platforms

From Mr Mike Corcoran
Sir, I would like to comment on the point of abandonment costs raised in Mr Mortished's article on platform abandonment (January 27). The quoted total abandonment cost of £7 billion in today's money is very tight. The contracting industry has undertaken its own estimate of such liabilities to nearer £3.3 billion to £4.6 billion in today's money. These estimates have been prepared on the basis of many years of experience in removing such structures from many parts of the world. For example, more than 700 plat-

forms have been removed, to date, from the Gulf of Mexico. Whether this total cost is "huge" is relative, and should be compared with the estimated capital expenditure on new facilities in 1994 of around £4.7 billion and projected expenditures between 1995 to 1998 of £21.7 billion. We are, however, all aware of the implications of increasing abandonment liabilities on the offshore industry, particularly amidst an environment of squeezed upstream margins on operations. To resolve this impasse, a consortium of contractors and financial institutions has been

working to develop a forward contracting initiative, by which abandonment costs are fixed ahead of filed shut-down. The effects of early production shut-in, costs over-runs and contractor default are covered by insurance instruments and ring-fenced payments terms. By this means, much of the price uncertainty addressed in the article is removed, whilst protecting timing flexibility. Yours faithfully,
MIKE CORCORAN
Consultant: Decommissioning and Salvage Operations,
149 Brondesbury Park,
NW2.

Rate rises fail to reach those in credit

From Mr Gordon Hanson
Sir, After the latest increase in the bank rate, the usual crop of tombstone advertisements appear from most of the joint stock banks advising of the increase in their own base rates to a similar figure. Why do the banks totally overlook those many thousands of their customers who maintain cleared credit balances on their current accounts? Over the last six months, base rates have increased by a full 1.5 per cent. In the same period, the NatWest has been pleased to reward my current

account credit balance with an unchanged interest of 0.25 per cent — presumably the additional 1.5 per cent earned on my credit balances has gone directly to the bottom line of their P&L account. Is this not plain undiluted usury? And should not the Office of Fair Trading be asked to comment? Yours faithfully,
GORDON HANSON,
4 West Street,
Abbotsbury, Dorset.

Letters can be faxed to 0171-782 5112.

Fall and fall of Pentos... and a credit solution to suppliers of Athena

From Mr Anthony Stone
Sir, At Dillon's bookstore in the Strand I purchased a copy of Terry Maher's revealing account of the rise and, latterly, fall of the Pentos enterprise, of which he is the ousted founder and to which Dillon's now belongs. It is a trifle amusing to speculate that the 68 per cent discount at which Mr Maher's tome is being offered for sale may be some reflection of the esteem in which he is held by the current Pentos board.

More remarkable, however, is the precise correlation between the price reduction for the book and the loss in the value of Pentos shares since I purchased a number of them two years ago.

Can your readers provide any similar examples of this variant on the "cost-benefit analysis" theme? Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY STONE,
Tudor House,
17 Leicester Road,
Branksome Park,
Poole, Dorset.

Phantom route to riches

From Mr David Ogden
Sir, I was surprised to see phantom share options described as "a new route to riches" in your article of January 26, entitled "For the man with everything — phantom shares". Phantom options have long had a place in the remuneration package for executives in the UK, although these have not been as popular as real share options. This is because, when an executive exercises a phantom share option, he takes cash out of the business and profits are then reduced. On the exercise of real share options, cash comes into the business when the shares are allotted and there is no reduction in company profits. Yours faithfully,
DAVID OGDEN,
Share Plans Director,
Sedgwick Noble Lowndes,
PO Box 144,
Norfolk House,
Wellesley Road,
Croydon,
Surrey.

Freud and the status of certified accountants

From S. Sherwood
Sir, Anthea Rose, chief executive of The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants, writes to you (February 2) to correct what she sees as the misconception about the right place of her body in the hierarchy of accountants. Methinks she does protest too much. If Certified Accountants really are so "distinguished", why do they simply not call themselves "The Association of Certified Accountants" and not blazon forth the sacred word "chartered"? Do they feel inferior, or do they hope simply to confuse the public in the hope that they will in fact be thought of as "Chartered Accountants"? Perhaps Freud has something to say on the subject! Yours faithfully,
S. SHERWOOD,
33 Gwendolen Avenue,
Putney.

made by the board, that Hanson would continue to make donations to the Tory Party. However, according to my notes, he was more positive than was reported, in saying that (in his opinion) British industry needs to support the Tory Party as it is the party for the creation of wealth rather than one for the spending of wealth. Furthermore, Pennington ends: "But now he appears to be swimming against the tide." Again, according to my recollections, following Lord Hanson's statement there was spontaneous, loud and sustained applause from the large number of people who attended the meeting. In view of this reaction, might it not be Pennington who is swimming in the wrong direction? Yours faithfully,
KEITH FOSTER,
Ash House,
Hog Lane,
Ashley Green,
Chesham,
Buckinghamshire.

Against the tide

From Mr Keith Foster
Sir, Pennington (February 2) reported correctly that Lord Hanson defended the deci-

Followers need faith in fashion of Laura Ashley

Susan Gilchrist looks at what the future may hold after ten years of troubles

Laura Ashley may sell pretty dresses, but it invariably delivers unattractive news. The latest instalment of hundreds of job losses and huge restructuring charges will come as little surprise to long-suffering shareholders who have been hearing bad news almost since the day the company came to the stock market in 1985.

Then, investors rushed to pay 135p a share in a company whose extraordinary rise had become the stuff of legend. From a small attic in London in the early 1950s where the eponymous founder made head scarves at her kitchen table, the business blossomed into an international fashion group. But Laura Ashley's death in September 1985 marked a turning point. The group that had built its following on old-fashioned, floral designs suddenly seemed out of place in the power dressing of the late 1980s. The group aimed for growth, but expansion was badly managed and there were insuffi-

cient financial controls. Inevitably, borrowings got out of control, rising to £100 million, while losses escalated. In the year to January 26, 1991, the company plunged £11.5 million into the red. Laura Ashley was only brought back from the brink by a refinancing and restructuring that saw Aeon, the Japanese retailer, inject £30 million in return for a 15 per cent stake.

The prospects for recovery appeared to take another step forward in September 1991 when Jim Maxmin was poached from Thorn EM1 to become chief executive. Mr Maxmin's business school jargon and marketing hype since the early 1980s. Many felt that it was a victory for the old guard. There was certainly a change of approach. Whereas Mr Maxmin had preached about the globalisation of the Laura Ashley brand, the new players talked about cutting overheads and reducing costs. The group was clearly entering a new era, though what that holds is still open to question. With the share price still languishing at 75p, Laura Ashley is vulnerable to outside predators. In spite of the troubles of the past ten years, it remains a strong international brand.

Faith in its future is clouded by the absence of a chief executive and the current management's aversion to appointing one in the near future. Mr Blakeway Webb insists a new man at the helm would hinder, rather than accelerate, recovery. Laura Ashley shareholders hope he is right. They have been waiting for more than five years for that particular piece of good news.

It aimed for growth, but expansion was badly managed

about this latest development. Mr Blakeway Webb was known to be close to Sir Bernard Ashley, the former chairman, having advised the family on tax since the early 1980s. Many felt that it was a victory for the old guard. There was certainly a change of approach. Whereas Mr Maxmin had preached about the globalisation of the Laura Ashley brand, the new players talked about cutting overheads and reducing costs. The group was clearly entering a new era, though what that holds is still open to question. With the share price still languishing at 75p, Laura Ashley is vulnerable to outside predators. In spite of the troubles of the past ten years, it remains a strong international brand.



Blakeway Webb: change

TAKE THE MOTORWAY

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Want to get
your new business
project off the ground?
Have a down the M58, West Lancs
very own motorway. The quickest route
to the fullest range of great assistance available
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service industries... for high capital projects... for
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STUART KITCHEN, The West Lancs Project, 1 Westgate,
Pennington, Skelmersdale, West Lancashire WN8 8LP.
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NAME _____ POSITION _____
COMPANY _____
ADDRESS _____
TELEPHONE _____

WEST LANCASHIRE

Equities marked higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
BANKS							
100	100.00	100.00	Barclays Bank	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	HSBC Bank	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	London City	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Mitani Bank	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Natwest Bank	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Paragon Bank	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Prudential	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Royal Bank	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Santander	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	TSB Bank	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
BREWERIES							
100	100.00	100.00	Adnams	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Beck's	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Carlsberg	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heineken	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Kaiser Brewery	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Miller	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Samuel Smith	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Tottenham Export	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Watney	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Windsor	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
BUILDING & CONSTRUCT							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS							
100	100.00	100.00	Adams	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Alcan	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo American	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo Coal	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo Gold	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo Irish	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo Japanese	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo Siam	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo Swiss	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Anglo Texaco	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
BUILDING MATERIALS							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
BUSINESS SERVICES							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
CHEMICALS							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
ENGINEERING							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
INVESTMENT TRUSTS							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
ENGINEERING, VEHICLES							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

1994/95	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
FOOD MANUFACTURERS							
100	100.00	100.00	Amey	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Balfour Beatty	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bechtel	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Bois	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Chambers	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Costain	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	David Bull	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	Heathcote	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	James Dwyer	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00
100	100.00	100.00	John Laing	100.00	0.00	4.50	10.00

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Increase in start-ups by budding entrepreneurs

MORE people are starting up new businesses, but they are choosing to work alone, according to National Westminster Bank's start-up index. A total of 370,000 start-ups began trading in England and Wales in 1994, compared with the 1993 figure of 350,000.

It is the first time since 1990 that the figure has risen, but start-ups are still at about the 1987 level.

Nearly two out of every three new enterprises had no employees outside immediate family. Fewer than half the budding entrepreneurs were loners when the survey started in 1987.

The retail sector, which has a high proportion of family-only businesses, accounted for 24 per cent of the start-ups last year. This sector has dominated the

new business scene since the bank began its index.

Catering/leisure and construction have continued to decline. Catering/leisure has slipped from 16 per cent to 9 per cent of start-ups and construction from 15 per cent to 6 per cent.

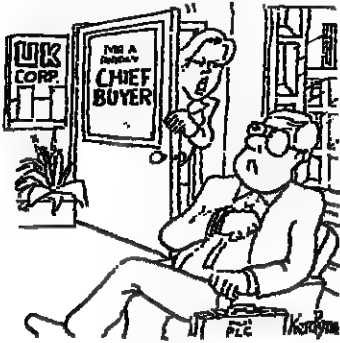
Ian Peters, the head of NatWest's small business services, says that the typical small business starter is male, aged between 25 and 44 and has a skilled manual or white-collar background. He is likely to set up as a sole trader with turnover of between £35,000 and £50,000.

Most new businesses continue to be formed in the South East, where professional services are concentrated. Manufacturing is most popular in the Midlands and retailing in the North.

Mr Peters says: "With low inflation projected for 1995 and the economy forecast to grow at about 3 per cent, conditions favour more dynamic small business growth than was seen last year."

"Nonetheless, following the harsh lessons of the recession, small business start-ups are looking to minimise their risks as they build up their businesses, particularly by reducing initial start-up costs and overheads. This helps to explain the drop in people employed by small businesses when starting up."

RODNEY HOBSON



"He's ready to lord it over you now"

Road to recovery in Europe

BY RODNEY HOBSON

LEAPING from the ranks of the unemployed to running their own business spanning Europe has been the success story of Robert and Crecia Willis.

It is a tale that led them into the national finals of the *Reader's Digest/Prince's* Youth Business Trust awards for new businesses. Their firm, Trans European Recoveries, now provides jobs for others at Hayle, near Penzance, Cornwall, in a development area with high unemployment.

Mr and Mrs Willis recover vehicles from Europe and bring them back for their owners in the UK, the Channel Islands and the Irish Republic. They have been so successful that they have won contracts to take vehicles in the opposite direction. The firm also acts as a repair centre for local vehicle owners.

Mr Willis says: "We were unemployed for two years. We spent two-and-a-half years researching the idea and looking for contracts. We are totally independent. We have built up the business and we now have eight staff, including ourselves. In the summer, when we were very busy, there were ten. Peak periods are July and August when we were taking 80 calls a day."

Much of the work is for insurance companies, including Norwich Union and Europ Assistance, but the firm also has private clients. Apart from cars, they have repatriated motorcycles, power and



Crecia and Robert Willis reunited 150 vehicles with their owners in the first ten months of operations

speedboats, and personal effects. The company successfully reunited 150 vehicles with their owners in the first ten months of operations. Although most trips were to France, Germany and Spain, Trans Europe has ventured as far as Russia, Greece, Poland and the Czech Republic.

So far, Trans European has avoided the ignominy of suffering a breakdown by one of its own heavily-used vehicles. Mr Willis

says: "We have a very strong maintenance and preventative programme. As soon as anything is detected, it is put right. We pride ourselves on very high safety and service standards. Because our vehicles run up very high mileages, they are serviced after every second trip. I was an engineer and we also have a full-time mechanic. I like to get involved. That way I can keep a closer eye on everything."

It is not only the vehicles that

suffer a heavy workload. Trans Europe is on call 24 hours a day and Mr Willis was almost constantly overseas during the first four months before the business was strong enough to take on more staff.

Mrs Willis has also been across the Channel to recover vehicles. She says: "I am an administrator, housewife, office worker, book-keeper and mother. I try to play a part in everything."

BRIEFINGS

The consolidation of value-added tax laws has opened up a loophole that will allow businesses to reclaim VAT on long-standing bad debts, according to Stones, a firm of solicitors in Exeter. Previously, VAT could not be reclaimed on bad debts incurred before April 1989. The consolidated law does not specify a time limit. Tim Bourne, head of the commercial department at Stones, says: "As it is a loophole, the Government is bound to close it up as soon as it can, but in the meantime businesses can take advantage of the opportunity to get their money back."

□ The area covered by South Thames Training and Enterprise Council, which has been in receivership since late December, is to be split. Two neighbouring Tees have been invited to submit proposals, Centec for taking over Lambeth and Southwark and Solotec for Greenwich and Lewisham.

□ The Rural Development Commission is sponsoring two regional conferences on the problems facing the centres of small market towns. The first is at Steaford, Lincolnshire, on February 22 and the second will be at Witney, Oxfordshire, in the summer. Details: Anne Marie Chatterton, 0171-340 2907.

□ The Department of Employment has produced a booklet called *Too Old...who says?* offering ideas and information for older workers.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

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OPERA page 32
Coming up roses in the Garden: a fine revival of Der Rosenkavalier from the Royal Opera

ARTS

DANCE page 33

Peter Wright, one of the architects of modern British ballet, says farewell to his company



VISUAL ART: The 'Irish' Caravaggio visits London; Yves Klein's photographer recalls his master's poise

A traitor's kiss comes to light

The Caravaggio found in Dublin five years ago is remarkable even by this artist's standards, says Richard Cork

Looking at *The Taking of Christ* today, I can scarcely believe that its authorship became muddled. Nobody but Caravaggio could have painted this innovative, passionate image. But for over two centuries the picture was attributed to a Dutch follower, Gerrit van Honthorst. By the time it was discovered in a Dublin religious institution five years ago, *The Taking of Christ* had been entirely forgotten.

So Sergio Benedetti, the restorer alert enough to identify the canvas, deserves our gratitude. The painting he spotted, discoloured by dirt and yellowed varnish in a Jesuit community house, is the most exciting Italian painting to have emerged in recent years. Normally on indefinite loan to the National Gallery of Ireland, it has come over to London for a few weeks. Nobody who admires Caravaggio should hesitate before making a pilgrimage to the National Gallery.

The painting could hardly be displayed with a more appropriate neighbour. New research has revealed that it was painted for the same nobleman, Ciriaco Mattei, who had already commissioned the National Gallery's finest Caravaggio, *The Supper at Emmaus*. So the two pictures have been reunited here for the first time since they hung together in a Roman palace.

They offer an illuminating contrast. Although both deal on a large scale with momentous biblical subjects, their mood and composition are strikingly different. In the *Emmaus* scene, our eyes are led deep into the picture over a table-top heavy with enticing food. Ample space surrounds each of the three disciples as they suddenly recognise Christ. Christ has a strangely boyish face. He seems almost female,

and his unfurrowed features indicate that the Resurrection has smoothed away all the protracted agony he endured.

No such serenity can be found in the Dublin canvas. The light spreading softly over the *Emmaus* room has been extinguished. Caravaggio pitches his scene in the darkest of all possible nights, so that the olive branches and leaves at the top of the picture are barely discernible. All the figures loom out from an encircling blackness. Cramped together, so that their bodies overlap with an intimacy at odds with the combative theme, they spread across the picture in a frieze-like progress which must reflect Caravaggio's awareness of the compression found in classical reliefs.

The flattening of the depth explored in the *Emmaus* canvas reinforces the brutality of the event. Jesus finds himself trapped by the advancing soldiers. He refuses to emulate the apostle on the left, whose face seems to flow out of Christ's like a frantic alter ego. Whether fleeing or crying out for help, the apostle gives vent to a desire for action, however futile it may be. Jesus suppresses the urge to protest and escape. But Caravaggio, with great psychological subtlety, reveals the emotional cost of that decision by highlighting Christ's hands. Although they are clasped in a gesture of faith, the fingers clasp at each other and disclose the anguish involved in the effort to remain still.

For this is a Christ bitterly at variance with the untroubled figure who appears centre-stage at *Emmaus*. Bearded and frowning, he looks older than his supposed age. Creases score the skin between his eyebrows and slice through his forehead. Jesus's pallor makes his face shine. He looks sickly, and his



Making eyewitnesses of us all: Caravaggio's *The Taking of Christ*, now on temporary display at the National Gallery in London

haggardness testifies to the privation of a man who, in the garden of Gethsemane, has been forced to confront and lament the inevitability of his imminent martyrdom.

Historians have speculated that the iconography of the painting was prompted by Mattei's brother, an influential Cardinal and protector of the Observant Franciscans. According to Counter-Reformation ideas, Christ's submission to the soldiers reflects the Franciscan emphasis on denial of self. Caravaggio certainly responds to this idea, but he also insists on conveying the struggle it sets off in Christ's mind. And the figure responsible for intensifying this turmoil is Judas.

Determined to seize on the most heightened moment in the drama,

Caravaggio uses the treacherous disciple with all the skill of a masterly stage director. Judas closes on his leader with repellent, vulpine hunger. The kiss of betrayal offered by his greedily protruding lips has a homoerotic force, and Christ does his best to avoid it by turning his face away. But he cannot escape. A wine-red cloak swirls above their two heads, emphasising their closeness and threatening to enfold them. Locked in an embrace which would prove lethal to them both, Jesus and his betrayer provide the painting with its darkly ambiguous heart.

Christ's stricken expression presages the greater suffering he will undergo. Perhaps that is why the gesture of the principal soldier, whose gleaming armour plays such

a domineering role in the painting, has the force of a weapon. It prophesies the spear thrust into Christ's side during the Crucifixion. The soldier comes between us and the rest of the scene, blocking out most of the lantern's light and using his arm as a metal barrier preventing anyone except Judas from gaining access to his prisoner.

On the right of the painting, though, a less callous mood prevails. Another soldier gazes towards Jesus with a sense of awe. He seems to be disarmed by Christ's rigid refusal to resist, and ponders the courage involved. But the feeling of wonder is more overt in the younger man behind him. Straining to see, he tilts his head back and peers towards Jesus. Some historians

have identified him as Caravaggio, and the idea makes sense.

For one thing, the lantern he holds up could be intended as a symbol of his determination, as an artist, to illuminate even the murkiest of biblical deeds. His presence here, eagerly observing, might also be an admission of a voyeur's fascination. Ultimately, though, Caravaggio's including of his own face must be the act of a man so caught up with the drama of betrayal that he yearns to see it for himself. Hence the peculiar power of *The Taking of Christ*, a painting so immediate, persuasive and perturbing that it makes eyewitnesses of us all.

● Caravaggio's *The Taking of Christ* is at the National Gallery (0171-839 3321) until March 26

AROUND THE GALLERIES

"ACTION painting" still goes on, but few of its practitioners carry the action side of it so far as the British/Chinese painter Hock-Aun Teh, who in his spare time holds a martial arts black belt. His paintings, however, are pleasant rather than challenging. Swirls and dashes of colour — the western element, no doubt — are combined with calligraphic flutters which must indicate the Oriental aspect of his heritage. He was born in Malaysia in 1950 and settled in Glasgow. His family originally came from southern China, and recently he visited his ancestral home, the resulting meditation on Chinese folk tales being the starting-point of the newest paintings. *Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (0181-741 2251) until February 28*

□ ANYONE who supposed that the Artworkers Guild must be a quaint institution with little to say about today is in for an agreeable shock at *Windsor Castle: an alternative design*. It displays the plans made for the restoration of the completely destroyed State Dining Room and adjacent Octagon Room by Roderick Gradidge, a regular thorn in the side of the architectural establishment, and joint winner of the Country Life competition for redesigning St George's Hall, Gradidge's designs, made in concert with two fellow guildsmen, the decorative designers Christopher Boulter and Anthony Ballantine, are a fascinating and sometimes outrageous blend of architectural scholarship and chicly post-modern invention. *Artworkers Guild, 6 Queen's Square, WC1 (0171-837 3474), daily 2-6pm, until Friday*

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

How I caught a falling star

Yves Klein was one of modern art's great showmen. Harry Shunk had the task of capturing the show on film; he talks to Sacha Craddock

Nobody was more concerned with self-promotion than Yves Klein. He made paintings and sculpture, did performances, published a one-day newspaper, set fire to things, threw away money, "flew" through the air, competed with everyone, prayed to God, gave lectures, held audience. He recognised no hierarchy among these practices.

As Klein strove to conjure something that went beyond the tangible, he became more and more dependent on "evidence" of his activities. He needed photographs, as much as painting or sculpture, to build up his myth. He relied heavily on a young photographer called Harry Shunk.

The relationship between the artist and the person who photographs his or her work is an important one. With performance or installation art, especially, the photograph lives on after the art is over. In many cases the photograph comes to replace the artwork, or even becomes the artwork itself. The art photographer has to play a strange role, somewhere between documentation and creation.

Shunk now lives in New York. With more than 650,000 negatives just from the seven years he spent in Paris, he possesses an exceptional archive of material, an almost seamless account of one of the key moments in postwar European art. He arrived in Paris in 1958, after two years in the care of a couple of elderly women in Guildford who had found him on the street. He was travelling on a Red Cross passport, obtained two years earlier at the Yugoslav border near his home in Trieste. He was only 16.

Shunk was initially taught to take photographs and develop film by the elderly Jewish Austrian photographer Dora

Kallmus. "When I was with her, she was working on a show about slaughterhouses. I didn't have any idea about photography. She talked about the 1920s. She had worked with Picasso, Chagall, all those people." It was Kallmus who suggested it was a good idea to work with artists, "because if you make a mistake, they don't take it very seriously".

So Shunk contacted Klein, having read an article about him in a magazine. "He lived in the 14th arrondissement, in the most elegant street for artists. Only those who had arrived lived there. Klein could hardly pay the rent. I lived in the Ile de la Cité — it sounds good, but it wasn't — in one room which had to be transformed from darkroom to living room to bedroom."

Whenever Klein contacted Shunk, he demanded 100 per cent attention and commitment, knowing that Shunk was also working with other artists. "If he found that another artist was doing something, his blood boiled. They were all jealous and possessive. At the time I thought that was what artists were."

At times Shunk simply had to take a break, to protect himself from the force of Klein's driven, dazzling, egocentric personality. "I don't know how I did it. I could never afford to run off many shots. They had to be good. We didn't have the money to buy lots of film. Klein wasn't paying me. They were all like that — they never had any money." Often Shunk's payment was simply the chance to collaborate on some of the best happenings of the time. "It was a great time. There was such excitement then."

The first performance



Yves Klein's *Leap into the Void*, October 1960. The image was captured and manipulated by Harry Shunk

Shunk ever photographed was an example of what Klein called Anthropometry, in which naked women smeared with International Klein Blue paint dragged each other around across an expanse of white paper to the accompaniment of Klein's own *Monotone* Symphony, played by an orchestra in full formal dress. It was attended by Klein's friends, but mainly by a select invited group of smartly dressed people who, according to Shunk, were "not really people that come to this kind of thing. The galleryist was from Brussels and showed Bernard Buffet and art like that."

Klein's famous *Leap into the Void*, which gives the Hayward Gallery exhibition its title, was deliberately rearranged to clash with an agreement Shunk had made to photograph the artist Arman picking up garbage for an

exhibition. The photograph has become an artistic icon. Klein insisted that he had made the leap before, but that nobody had witnessed it. He needed Shunk's camera to record the feat, to prove it.

Klein was a world-class judo expert; his basic textbook on the subject is still in use in France. He used his physical powers as an extension of his art. The imagery of the leap is rich in meaning: the suggestion of levitation and of flying encourages mystical and religious associations.

"Klein was very religious," says Shunk. "It was very strange, especially in that age. He didn't really insist on it, but you could feel it."

On this occasion, Klein needed Shunk to act as a straight documentary photographer, but to fiddle the evidence. "There were three versions in the end. One with a bike, one with Yves's car, and

one with nothing. He immediately decided the official version should be the one with the bike, but then he also sent out the other one. But never the one with the car; he hated the car because it was cheap.

"The building was next to the judo club. There were maybe eight big judo guys with tarpaulins. He said there would be two keps only. One with a tarpaulin and one without. And he did the one with the tarpaulin which I photographed. Then Rotraut, his wife, begged him not to do the other one. I was so nervous, because I didn't know whether I had the right moment. I thought it didn't matter, because the second one was going to be the important one. And then he didn't do it."

"I thought it was just going to be a straight photo. I didn't know that I would have to work on it in the darkroom. There were two separate pictures joined together." Klein made Shunk swear never to discuss the subject, and even threatened him with lawyers if he mentioned taking out the judo figures underneath.

The last photo performance Klein orchestrated in collaboration with Shunk in March 1962 has an extraordinary sense of premonition. He told friends that he knew he was going to have another heart attack, but he still refused to slow down. *Cifit l'espace* shows Klein lying underneath a gold-covered slab or panel. Placed on top are scatterings of gold leaf, artificial roses and a blue sponge wreath.

Klein died that year aged only 34. "When I read about Klein dying, I thought it was another of his jokes. There was a funeral in the South of France. I stayed nearby with Marie Raymond, Klein's mother. We found a suitcase with lots of photos from when he was a boy. I photographed them all. I always do that. I photographed everything, even art criticism in newspapers. Somehow it is easier to put it into photographs."

● Yves Klein: *Leap into the Void* is at the Hayward Gallery, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800) from Thursday until April 23

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

couple on their journey towards sharing a bed. Arthur Smith's revised version of the 1988 Edinburgh Festival comedy.

ELSEWHERE

BATH The Theatre Royal plays host this week to the *Gale Theatre* Dublin's production of *The Plough and the Stars*. Anna Fennell stars in the third play in O'Casey's 'Dublin Trilogy'.

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OPERA: Rodney Milnes enjoys a Strauss revival notable for its sumptuous musical virtues

Caught in the game of the rose

Der Rosenkavalier
Covent Garden

If the court of posterity is still reserving judgement on Richard Strauss, as more austere music-lovers would insist, then performances of *Rosenkavalier* as revival will be useful evidence for the defence. Simply at the level of vocal and orchestral sound it was seductively lush, yet it also made you think about the piece, about the irony, the truth-telling and the pain lurking just beneath its glittering surface.

Rosenkavalier is commonly dubbed "Strauss's Figaro", but here - and not just because the two operas are running side by side at Covent Garden - it seemed more like his *Così fan tutte*. When you play games with love, someone always gets hurt. The illness of Anne Sofie von Otter brought in Ann Murray at the eleventh hour to play Octavian to Felicity Lott's Marschallin. They are a long-established team, two artists who know each other's reflexes so well that they seem to be performing as one; the interplay was riveting in its detail. Lott's portrayal of a woman "of a certain age" is gaining steadily in depth. Naturally, her prowess as a singer of lieder and melodies means that every line is rich in colour and nuance, suggesting countless shades of meaning.

But her dramatic response is equally resourceful. There is a wholehearted acceptance of the role's searier side: mo-

ments of cruelty in the Act III shoot-out, of sarcasm and anger, the more barbed lines delivered with the sweetest, most lethal of smiles. Yet the heartbreak is also there, in a fascinating interpretation.

As is the case with Murray's Octavian. You know from her body-language at certain times that this is going to be a bumpy evening. Few catch so completely the helplessness of a 17-year-old boy having a whale of a time physically but miles out of his depth emotionally, and unable to deal with the social crisis of Act II without resorting to loss of temper. Murray is also very funny as a dough-faced Mariandel, and of course the tricky role fits her bright mezzo-soprano - or rather soprano-mezzo - like a glove.

But it is the playing of Ochs that is bringing fresh resonance to *Rosenkavalier* nowadays. Last year in Cardiff we heard Franz Hawlata's young, challengingly sexy Ochs; here, Aage Haugland plays him as a thoroughly amiable fellow with healthy appetites (his rehearsal for goosing Mariandel is hilarious), but he is also thoughtful and with an air of wistful melancholy. He knows what is at stake in the shoot-out, fights back, is outkicked, and dissolves into tears when chased from the stage.



Felicity Lott as the Marschallin: barbed lines delivered with the most lethal of smiles

Haugland was not in his freshest voice, but his performance was full of insight.

Barbara Bonney's Sophie, so fresh, so knowing and vocally so assured, completes a formidable quartet. If there are few to match them lower down the list, this is more to do with the decorative Schlesinger production (revived by

David Edwards) than with potential. Alan Ogie's strongly sung Faninal is defeated by costume and make-up.

The Strauss balance is restored by Andrew Davis's unapologetically romantic conducting. Lush, long-breathed and succulent. There are other ways of approaching this score, but Davis's will do very nicely. We should be allowed a good wallow every now and then.

The surtitles are unacceptable. Quite apart from the omission of key lines, the wit, colour and irony of Hofmannsthal's text are ironed out into bland anonymity, almost a case for action under the Trades Description Act.

THEATRE: On the London Fringe, stagings of a Duras melodrama and a weird new musical

Too loud in grief

IN A typical Marguerite Duras play something terrible has happened, long ago, and is being remembered by survivors. Generally the terrible event has been a cataclysmic love, and the survivors marvel at its power while mourning, rather dreamily, the sorrows it has brought.

Such concerns hold the stage more successfully in France than here. Certainly this is the case with *Savannah Bay*, which reads well but as directed by Katrin Magrowitz for Concrete Theatre adds up to very little. Her previous work, most recently in *Kokoschka's Murderer*, *Hope of Woman* last year, expressed wild conflict through thrilling physical activity, but this is not an approach that can succeed with the dialogue of

Savannah Bay
New Grove, NW1

white rock in the bay to which a young girl swam. Of the man who joined her there, of the great love that blossomed. When their child was born she left the babe and went out to drown herself, possibly to preserve her love.

Reflected through the memories of the two women these events could create a portrait of, I don't know, grief preserved through time, perhaps, or the need to discover a past. But this would have to be done through evocative tones of voice and silences

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Reflected through the memories of the two women these events could create a portrait of, I don't know, grief preserved through time, perhaps, or the need to discover a past. But this would have to be done through evocative tones of voice and silences

that throb with thoughts unspoken. Magrowitz allows the granddaughter (Lisa D'Agostino) to be angry rather than persistent, and while the pacing around the stage, and the postures frozen against the rear wall, may be intended to convey fraught states of mind they work against the value of the dialogue, diminish it and put nothing special in its stead.

The play closes with the grandmother (Anna Chauveau) slowly revolving on the dais. In a film, where the camera moves, her face would be defenceless against our scrutiny. On the stage it is the actress who must move and thus invites us to look at her. The change is total and disturbing.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Songs for missing persons

Mad and Her Dad
Lyric Studio, W6

of his obsession with the girl-gone sexual of the Sixties. Mad also patches up the rift with Tom, her lover, whom she catches having it away with her housemate, Anna.

Mad and Her Dad, however, is never reconciled with itself. It inclines towards avant-garde opera, yet has half a mind to be a commercial musical. The on-stage string quartet generates edgy

cacophonies with fleeting chromatic crunches. Then a song ends in a sugary chord-sequencing. It sounds like an unwise collaboration between Britten and Lloyd Webber.

Sometimes Sand's pastiche is quirkily interesting. Not

everyday do you see people singing arias into mobile phones. Sometimes, the show is amusingly silly, as when the love triangle turns into a courtly dance accompanied by the libretto "Yeah, chuck 'em out". The singing is strong.

Yet the acting is clumsy, over-choreographed by director Glen Watford. Black has been encouraged into being comically gauche. Only Con-

rad Nelson's Tom intensifies into seriousness as his business is blighted by scandal. The plot is in a frightful pickle. It is as if Sand has passed songs together without charting the story in between. The show also indulges in the sexually cheap. Mounting sales of Dan's pseudo-artistic soft-porn wallpaper (phallic cat encroaching on female torsos) apparently serve as the climax of the piece. Not very satisfying if you ask me.

KATE BASSETT

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

W H PATTERSON 10 Abchurch Lane, EC4A 3DF. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

CINEMAS

CURSON PICTURE 100 Chiswick Road, W4 3AL. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

CARABET

THE GREEN ROOM 10 Abchurch Lane, EC4A 3DF. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 552 0000. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 416 6000. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

THEATRE

THEATRE 0171 416 6000. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

ADULTS

ADULTS 0171 416 6000. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

CHILDREN

CHILDREN 0171 416 6000. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE 0171 416 6000. "The Green Room" by John Latham. 11th Feb - 11th Mar. Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.

MAMA, I WANT TO SING

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PAME

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NEVILLE'S ISLAND

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A retirement gift for more work

Sir Peter Wright has decided to step down as artistic director of Birmingham Royal Ballet. But dance has not seen the last of him, if he has any say in the matter. **Allen Robertson reports**

Just back from three days in Vienna, where he is staging a production of *The Sleeping Beauty*, Peter Wright is catching his breath. He is at his north London home for all of 48 hours before heading towards the Midlands once again.

He has been keeping up this kind of on-the-road schedule for most of his life, although it has been even more hectic since his company, Birmingham Royal Ballet, moved out of Sadler's Wells Theatre in London five years ago. But now, at the age of 67, and a recent victim of the muscle-wasting disease myasthenia gravis, Wright is stepping down from his post as BRB's artistic director.

Is he really retiring? "I'm not going to go and sit in the country," he says. "If that's what you mean by retiring, no, I'm not. I'm open to others and anything that comes my way I shall grab."

Indeed, it is impossible to imagine Wright putting himself off entirely from ballet. His immaculate staging of *Giselle* has just been revived at Covent Garden; his new version of *Coppélia* is in rehearsal for a Birmingham opening on March 3. Over Christmas he was involved in the BBC's taping of his vivid production of *The Nutcracker*, and the Vienna staging of his sumptuous *Beauty and the Beast* is set to open on March 19. As if that were not enough, tonight his company returns to Sadler's Wells for its final season there under his guiding hand.

That is hardly the daily routine one would expect from an ailing, soon-to-retire grandfather. But Wright, who was knighted in 1993, is thrilled to be working. He was afraid his illness, which has no known cure and is only kept under control by drugs, might prevent him from continuing to do what he does best.

"Onassis died of it," Wright says. "And I believe Olivier had it as well. It's like any rare disease: you've never heard of it until you've got it and then, suddenly, everyone seems to know someone who..."

"I've been taking drugs for about eight months now, and we've finally found the proper balance. Now I'm being weaned off the steroids; that's going to take about another eight months. But by doing these recent productions I've proved to myself that I don't have to be put on the shelf just because I'm retiring. That's a wonderful thing to know."

Wright's departure from BRB at the end of this season marks a severing in the chain of continuity in British ballet. The giants of his

I'm not going to go and sit in the country. Anything that comes my way, I shall grab

youth, such as Frederick Ashton and Margot Fonteyn, are gone. Many of his contemporaries, such as Kenneth MacMillan, have died, while Lynn Seymour, still a schoolgirl when Wright first hired her, has left ballet behind her. Anthony Dowell, current director of the Covent Garden company, is 15 years younger than Wright, while David Bintley, who takes over from Wright at BRB later this year, was born in 1957, the year Wright was appointed ballet master.

He joined what was then called the Sadler's Wells Theatre Ballet in 1949. Over the decades, as teacher, choreographer, producer and director, he has not only helped to develop British ballet's own style, he has also become its elder statesman.

"There is no company I have found in the world that can compare with us regarding company style, company development, continuity and all that," Wright says. "The truth is that the majority

of European companies are not national companies at all. They are international, with dancers from here, there and all over, so none of them, except the Danes, has their own style the way we do. And it's so important that we continue to nourish and cherish our special heritage."

It is his role as an arbiter of taste and upholder of tradition that has proved supremely valuable. His meticulous, dramatically convincing stagings of the great 19th-century classics are models throughout the world. Each of Wright's productions reveals his knack for striking an ideal balance between authenticity and immediacy.

"I would be the last person to mess around, to tinker for tinkering's sake," he says. "Those ballets are part of our heritage, and I believe in tradition. Of course, they have to be alive for today's audiences, and with all the classics I add a few of my own touches. But, really, I don't fiddle around that much."

Starting in 1988, when the Birmingham Hippodrome first suggested that Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet move to the Midlands, Wright's life underwent a sea change. "In the beginning I was furious," he says. "I hit the roof. I was dead against it, because I thought that Birmingham was simply trying to buy itself a ballet company."

"Fortunately, I quickly realised that this was far from the case. The Hippodrome proved that it wanted to integrate us properly into the theatre, and the marvelous thing is that over the whole five years we've been there, plus the two-year run-up period, it has kept absolute faith with us. There's never been any major disagreement on the artistic side at all. In truth, we're now a much better company because of it."

"Still, the Wells has been an amazing home for us," he says. "Although it was very cramped, we were looked after extremely well. In fact, it was because of our relationship with the Wells that there was a



Listening to the master: Peter Wright makes a point to an attentive Marion Tait, prima ballerina of Birmingham Royal Ballet

company ready to take advantage of the opportunity, when Birmingham beckoned."

Between now and July 1, when there will be a special celebratory gala in Birmingham for Wright, the honorary events will come rolling by with almost alarming

frequency. "Yes," he says, with a wry smile, "all these little milestones. I know I'm now going to be able to do certain things in my life and with my family that I haven't been able to do because of lack of time, and I'll love that. But I shall always take an interest. After all,

this company has been my life for a very long time and I will always be grateful to have had Birmingham as a wonderful challenge at the end of my career."

"I agree it is time, that there should be a change, and I have promised myself that I'm going to

be very good when it comes. Still," he laughs, "I know I shall hate it when it happens. Hate it."

● Birmingham Royal Ballet is at Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-276 8916) tonight, until Sat. *Coppélia* opens at the Birmingham Hippodrome on March 3

ROCK: Heady spirit of punk; a rare vocal treat



Siouxsie Sioux and her long-serving Banshees: Budgie (left), and Steve Severin

The vamp bares her teeth

FIRST, a warning. Writing as someone who greeted the 1978 release of the Banshees' debut record, "Hong Kong Garden", by hitch-hiking from Rome to the first record shop I could find in Britain, I should have never marked my relationship with one of punk rock's most enduring icons. And not just me. Over nearly 20 years, the Banshees have attracted a fanatical following and sold out theatres. The band is understandably concerned — as this tour's choice of material has shown — that it should not be dragged down by the weight of nostalgia.

Even so, justifiable excitement has greeted these shows. Their most recent album, *The Rapture*, has refined all the darkly swirling drama of their music while adding new, subtle touches. The title refers to the day when, if fundamentalist Christians are to be be-

Siouxsie and the Banshees
Empire, W12

lieved, the righteous will be whisked up in the heavenly elevator. Given Siouxsie's lyrical predilection for macabre, floating corpses and straitjackets, it all makes, in Banshee terms, perfect sense.

Live, the band remain powerfully affecting. As the opening hiss of "The Double Life" gave way to the pounding rhythms of bassist Steve Severin and drummer Budgie, it was clear that none of their lean and angular menace had dissipated. Guitarist Knox, accompanied by the most excellent cellist and keyboardist Martin McCarrick, whipped up an exhilarating, stinging whirl of sound. Siouxsie's

demeanour — somewhere between sphinx, Theda Bara and slightly dotty aunt — and her swooping, unearthly voice had a predictable effect. Roses, lace ribbons and a few bodies were hurled towards the stage.

Her twirling dance on "Tearing Apart" signalled that sonic take-off had commenced. Strobe lighting, combined with a heavily flanged mix on two old songs, "Christine" and "The Killing Jar", and the new single "Sargasso", proved arresting, as did McCarrick's epic cello sweeps on "Sick Child" and, later, "The Rapture". But the Banshees have always excelled at the grand gesture, and their trademark voracious of sound and light on "Not Forgotten", "Night Shift" and "Love Out Me" were monumental, breathtaking moments.

LOUISE GRAY

Talent beyond all limitations

Victoria Williams
Dingwalls, NW1

RELUCTANTLY, one must first state the obvious. Victoria Williams is rightly anxious that she not be defined as a musician with multiple sclerosis, and would not want the fact of her medical condition to influence the way in which we hear and react to her songs.

But the limitations it places on her freedom to travel and play have kept her a relative secret in Britain prior to this one-off appearance with her excellent Loose Band, she has played here in just one place, as supporting the late 1980s London show during the late 1980s.

So last Wednesday's two-and-a-quarter hour show was more welcome than ever, particularly

as it is said to presage further concerts in the spring. The Louisiana-born singer, now 34 and resident in Los Angeles, is a gloriously free spirit both musically and lyrically, and has a charm that kept her audience enthralled.

Her singing voice explored a range that runs from deep and guttural to helium-high, while her interpretative skill was shown in a fresh and quite stunning version of the standard "Someone To Watch Over Me".

Her own songs were the real treat, though. Williams has not been a prolific recording artist to date. But her repertoire is full of gems of widely divergent stylistic colours. "Crazy Mary" and "Century Plant" showed she has both southern Gothic and the narrative tradition down to a fine art, while "The Waterfall Song" and "Opelousa" were representative of her more pastoral side. Meanwhile, a deeply affecting song about mortality, "I Can't Cry Hard Enough", showed that for all the charm and whimsy, she has considerable force as an articulator of the human condition.

ALAN JACKSON

CONCERTS: The opening of the Tippett Festival in London; a Schnittke cantata in Edinburgh

At 90, still a child of our time

Sir Michael Tippett has much to look back on in the music that makes up his ninetieth birthday festival of concerts and other events, oddly titled "Visions of Paradise". But it was not just his great age that brought the audience to its feet when he made his faltering way to take a platform bow at the end of the first major concert on Sunday.

No, there could be few, if any, who would not admit themselves moved by *A Child of Our Time*, the oratorio of reconciliation, as well as anger and compassion, with which he first staked his claim to wider reputation half a century ago. Although prompted by a topical event — the ruthless

pogrom against the Jews — its nature and message remain sadly relevant to "our time", even now.

At the Barbican, Sir Colin Davis measured his conducting with the experience of his long devotion to Tippett's music, and drew from the London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus a vigour and breadth of feeling that went to the heart of the work, not least in the Negro spirituals that comprise the most haunting content. John Tomlinson was a replacement for Siegmund Nimsgern as the bass soloist, and his noble delivery of the narration raised the question of why a singer native to English was not engaged in the first place.

Deborah Riedel soared radiantly in the soprano solos, with Florence Quivar a contralto of generous warmth of expression, and Laurence Dale's tenor was nicely inclusive in his dramatic contributions. It was a performance of much drama and imaginative insight, which happily eclipsed the preceding performance of Mozart's *Concerto for Two Pianos* (K365), where the two soloists — the Labèque sisters, Katia and Marielle — showed themselves clatteringly insensitive in all matters of keyboard style. Their phrasing was unpoetic and pedalling erratic.

More early Tippett featured in the first of seven associated early-evening programmes at

St Giles, Cripplegate, the church in the Barbican just across from the main hall. The Lindsay String Quartet has always been a champion of Tippett in performance and recording, and this month it is giving all five of his quartets in this series, beginning with Nos 1 and 2, from more than half a century ago.

They sounded a touch self-consciously assertive in the first quartet, which goes back to 1935 in origin, but compensated for this in a richly textured lyricism for the Lento movement and exuberant conviction in the finale. Quartet No 2, meanwhile, was notable for a firmly balanced assurance of part-writing and the enjoyment of its abundant



Tippett: huge ovation for his platform appearance

melody. These enclosed three Fantasias by Henry Purcell, a formative influence on Tippett. They were played with sensitive style and buoyant spirit.

NOEL GOODWIN

Passions in negative

RSNO/Lazarev
Edinburgh

and making a brilliantly stylish success of it. The string soloists were as expressive as the clarinets and trumpets (outstanding among the wind-players) were aggressive.

Having done *The Godfather* so well, Lazarev might have been expected to find similar inspiration in the excesses and eccentricities of Alfred Schnittke's *Faust Cantata*. He of all people must be aware of the operatic associations of the work in the composer's mind and, as artistic director of the Bolshoi, he cannot have been short of ideas for presenting them in the concert hall.

The RSNO performance was, however, peculiarly unambitious from that point of view, more oratorio than anything else.

Still, that is a perfectly legitimate approach to it — just as it is to Stravinsky's opera-oratorio *Oedipus Rex*, which is so frequently echoed in the choral parts. The composer himself has described the *Faust Cantata* as a "negative passion" and, as Philip Salmon so expertly demonstrated, the role of Schnittke's Narrator has a clear parallel with that of Bach's Evangelist. It is difficult, on the other hand, to

reconcile the oratorio interpretation with the twanging and thumping of electric guitars and, at the climax of the work, the outrageously macabre tango where Faust meets his bloody, brain-bespattered end.

Casting Sarah Walker as Mephistopheles was scarcely calculated to create the kind of sensation Schnittke had in mind when he gave the role to a subversive Soviet rock star. But, microphone in hand, she sounded authentic enough and she did introduce an essential element of the grotesque to a performance which, in spite of the well-prepared contributions of the RSNO Chorus and the brave efforts of Ulrik Cold as Faust, had been disappointingly tame up to that point.

GERALD LARNER

JAZZ: A soundtrack giant lets his hair down

As never seen on TV

Colin Towns's
Mask Orchestra
Purcell Room

Towns presented to a highly appreciative Purcell Room last Wednesday night.

But his compositions for a 16-piece jazz ensemble also demonstrated a number of skills vital to the jazz composer's art, among them a sure sense of structure, and an ability to display his many stellar soloists in the musical settings most sympathetic to them.

Thus, throughout a first half comprised chiefly of shortish pieces from their eponymous 1993 album, the Mask Orchestra either swung hard, punching out strident, gutsy brass figures combining all the unfettered exuberance of township music with the drilled precision of Basie-like ar-

rangements, or communed gently with itself, injecting the swooningly lovely "Tears For A Traveller", in particular, with just the right amount of pathos.

In the second half, however, Towns unveiled a lengthy piece, "Short Stories", which, although it ranged in mood from an almost Mingusian rambunctiousness through to death march solemnity, cohered with all the natural ease of a popular song.

But if it was Towns's archi-

tectural deftness that impressed the mind of the listener, it was his skill in exploiting the various strengths of his soloists that immediately pleased the ear.

Alan Skidmore's Coltrane-tinged tenor sax was set most effectively against the rhythm section alone, and Guy Barker's exuberant trumpet ripped and tore across fuller brass arrangements.

Meanwhile, Gerard Presencer, Barker's section mate, spun intricate long lines over some tricky chord sequences.

Peter King's creamy but tart alto and Julian Argüelles's sonorous baritone rose entirely naturally from softly repeated piano figures or quiet brass

statements, imbuing the music with a gentle, but most affectingly dignified melancholy.

Those outside London will have to wait until the first week of March to see the Mask Orchestra when it sets out on a short tour of the United Kingdom, but if this London concert is anything to go by, their patience will be richly rewarded.

CHRIS PARKER

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Why £1 million is a fair price to pay for tragedy

Richard Bretton argues in favour of the compensation awarded to his client for mental disability

On August 13, 1982, Peter Vernon's two young daughters, Philippa, seven, and Theresa, three, together with a friend, Sophie Beloe, were being driven in Powys, Wales, by the family nanny. The nanny lost control of the car on a bend and crashed into a river. Mr and Mrs Vernon were called to the scene of the accident. In the words of Mr Justice Sedley: "From the bank they watched helplessly while hope came and went. There is no need to detail the horror of the event: it was every parent's nightmare become a reality." All three children drowned; the nanny was rescued.

Within a few months of the tragedy it became evident to Mr Vernon's wife, family and friends that he was having difficulty in coping with the shock. In spite of intensive medical treatment and therapy, Mr Vernon did not recover. High Court proceedings were issued in 1985 by Mr Vernon against the car's insurers, General Accident. In 1988 the insurers admitted that the tragedy had been caused by the nanny's negligent driving. General Accident denied that Mr Vernon had a medical condition caused by his witnessing of the tragedy. Accordingly, all the financial consequences of Mr Vernon's medical condition were also disputed.

On January 12, 1994, a trial to decide the level of damages started before Mr Justice Sedley in Cardiff. No one in court that day would have predicted that the trial "road show" would proceed to six courts in Bristol and London, including "the Blue Arrow" court complex in Chancery Lane, and the Court of Appeal. Mr Vernon was in the witness box for more than five weeks. Judgment was delivered on day 71. It ran to 262 pages and was not read out because Mr Justice Sedley estimated that it would take eight hours. The court has yet to decide whether Mr Vernon will recover interest and costs. Mr Vernon was awarded £1.1 million. Why? An explanation is needed as many commentators, while expressing sympathy for Mr Vernon, have stated that compensation should not have been awarded for "nervous shock", and that "it is folly to put a price on tragedy".

The court accepted that Mr Vernon's witnessing of the accident had destabilised his previously insecure but manageable personality. Chronic reaction, anxiety and depression have now become permanent features of his mental

state. Mr Vernon's response was outside the normal range of emotional reaction for which compensation cannot be recovered. If Mr Vernon had not witnessed the tragedy, his claim would have been limited to the then fixed sum for bereavement of £3,500.

Was Mr Vernon's medical condition unusual, or indeed unique? No. A recent authoritative paper by Dr Stephen O'Brien, a consultant psychiatrist, refers to documented accounts of psychological reactions to extremely stressful conditions throughout history. It starts with Arthurian legends (vision and distress) and continues through the Fire of London to the First World War (shell shock), more recent wars (combat fatigue) and other well-publicised disasters.

What price was put on Mr Vernon's past and continuing psychological disability? £37,500. Too much, some have said. Surely not.

'Every parent's nightmare became a reality'

It is often forgotten that large compensation awards include a number of different items, each of which was subjected to intense scrutiny by the court.

A global figure is not awarded in the manner of awards dictated by jurors in defamation cases. It was accepted that Mr Vernon had been a successful businessman, had not worked since 1986 and was unemployed and unemployable. For past and future loss of earnings he was awarded approximately £950,000. On a finding that he was helpless and dependent, approximately £131,500 was awarded for past and future care.

Too much? No. This case illustrates that victims with "psychological damage" will receive compensation on the same basis as victims with more obvious physical injuries. I am confident that fair-minded and informed members of the public would not wish to differentiate between the two.

Where do we go from here? For Mr Vernon his long wait for compensation continues. It is highly likely that his case will go to the Court of Appeal, where the insurance company will seek either to extinguish or reduce his award.

For the insurance industry, this case will serve as a timely reminder that the courts are increasingly willing to recognise that the financial and other consequences of "psychological" disabilities should be fully compensated. Suggestions that the floodgates have been opened are wrong. The same old principles will apply, and quite rightly the legal and medical merits of each case



Peter Vernon: awarded £1.1 million but his long wait for compensation is not over yet

will be scrutinised.

The American compensation system has not crossed the Atlantic. Any change in the system would be through primary legislation after lengthy consultation and debate. The Law Commission is already working closely at this area of the law.

Mr Vernon's case will be remembered by the legal profession for one other important reason. In the light of recent statements from Lord Justice Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, and in anticipation of the recommendations of Lord Woolf, it is highly unlikely that future cases involving the assessment of damages will last 70 days.

After 63 days, Mr Justice Sedley indicated an approach which has now been adopted elsewhere. The point had come, he said, when it was not only realistic but necessary in

the interests of justice to lay down a timetable for the remaining evidence. This meant that the length of the trial would not be determined by the length of counsel's examination of witnesses. Instead, a segment of the trial would be allocated in the light of the anticipated needs of the case.

This will mean court control during the trial and shorter, cheaper, trials. In future, the parties will expect their advocates to throw enough punches within a limited number of rounds to achieve victory. By this process, I believe many more litigants will be able to afford to pursue their existing legal rights. Adequate compensation... shorter and cheaper trials. What's wrong with that?

● The author is head of the health and safety unit at Osborne Clarke, Mr Vernon's solicitors since 1990

Sin bins not a cure for young offenders

Last week, Michael Howard said he was "on course" to have the new secure training units for 12 to 14-year-olds up and running by the end of this Parliament. Planning permission had been granted for two, Cookham Wood and Gringley, and tenders would be going out within weeks. For the other three planning permission was at an advanced stage.

It is only three years since the last Criminal Justice Act came into force and now magistrates are going to have to grapple with yet another one. Many of us will welcome the power to remand 12 to 14-year-olds to secure accommodation without the local authority having to request it first. We are far more worried about secure training centres. One of the most contentious sections of the Act, which the Lords tried and failed to amend, is the new Secure Training Order for persistent offenders aged 12 to 14 which will last between six months and two years. Half at a secure training centre and half under close supervision in the community.

Accepting that there are a few children who habitually re-offend, most magistrates see the use of secure accommodation as the sensible means of controlling them. And since the Department of Health is going to provide capital funding for some 170 new secure places by the end of 1995, it would seem logical to build on these and on community-based punishment. No one could provide me with any information as to when the five secure training centres would be built or the capital cost but I understand that the running costs of the centres plus the supervision aspect are expected to be some £30 million a year.

The crowning irony, of course, is that locking these children up in what are now being dubbed "sin bins" has been shown not to work. All the research conducted over many years has shown that, no matter what type of custodial sentence is used, re-offending remains high. It can be of little use to the law-abiding majority if these children come out and continue to commit crimes. And when you consider that eight out of ten adolescents in young offender institutions re-offend within two years, the chances that the 12 to 14 year olds won't behave similarly seem remote.

Research in Northern Ireland, on whose training schools the secure centres are expected to be modelled, show similar trends. Recently completed by the Adolescent Psychology Research Unit, it addresses the issue of serious juvenile offending. It examines juveniles in open and secure forms of custody and their subsequent re-offending in the longer term, measured by court convictions. Based on a sample of some 1,400 children

and young people taken between 1972 and 1990, the report shows that within one year of discharge, 30 per cent of those from open units are reconvicted while 37 per cent are reconvicted after discharge from secure custody. After two years the discrepancy is even greater — 59 per cent of those from the open units compared with 74.8 per cent of those from closed units.

Mr Howard has said that the centres will provide a focused regime for youngsters who have been given every possible chance to reform. Yet the criteria for sending them "inside" — they have to have been convicted of at least three imprisonable offences and to have committed an offence while subject to a supervision order or failed to comply with one — are not as stringent as they appear. The Home Secretary also appears to have taken absolutely no notice of the report of the Policy Studies Institute, which, although independent, was funded by the Home Office. The report, *Persistent Offenders*, found that only a small proportion are arrested twice in a year and the most persistent offenders account for only 10 per cent of juvenile crime. Even where young people are committing tens (or very occasionally hundreds) of crimes, they rarely do so for longer than a few months.

Many of them were found to have disrupted family lives, high levels of truancy and exclusions from schools. Nearly half were known to social services and, of that half, a quarter had experienced ten or more placements or changes in care arrangements.

They are sad, chaotic in their habits, and bored. As one colleague remarked after dealing with an apparently compulsive offender: "What this kid needs is loving and responsible parents." This is the area in which funds should be invested. Apparently funding for youth work in community-based punishment has already decreased so the chances of funding community schemes to help inadequate families seem small.

The Home Office is investing in pre-school programmes and in a report last year the Family Policy Studies Centre recommended the teaching of parentcraft as a way of helping to prevent juvenile crime. The most imaginative — if obvious — approach, however, has been made by a charity called Home Start. There are now 148 Home Start schemes operating in the United Kingdom. Using trained volunteers from the local neighbourhoods who visit to help families in request, these schemes are genuine examples of care in the community.

● The author is a magistrate who sits in a juvenile court



PAULA DAVIES

ANNOUNCEMENT

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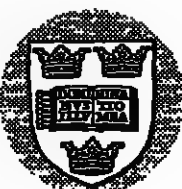
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INSIDE AND OUTS

Key positions

LOVELL White Durrant, the City law firm, has appointed a woman managing partner. Lesley MacDonagh, 42, is thought to be the first woman to hold such a post in the top ten firms. Ms MacDonagh, a senior partner in the firm's property practice, joined in 1978 and became a partner in 1981. She is one of eight women on the 75-member council of the Law Society.

Chambers music

The chambers of Michael Burton, QC, are the first to win a coveted Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme award. It comes for their sponsorship of the concert

performance of *Dido and Aeneas* by The King's Consort at the Wigmore Hall this Thursday as part of the Purcell Tercentenary Festival.

On the move

THE market in lawyers' jobs is picking up. Hugh Kelly, head of personnel at City law firm Ashurst Morris Crisp since 1989, this week sets up a legal recruitment firm, Kellyfield Consulting. His co-founding director was formerly a corporate lawyer at Freshfields, before going for two years to Quarry Douglas. A second legal recruitment consultancy — this time to specialise in partnership appointments — has also been launched. Tomkins, set up by

Anthony Tomkins, founder of the Charles Fellows Partnership and a former barrister, is responding to what he sees as "an unprecedented demand for partner level service".

Wheeling on

ONLY *Fools and Horses* made the Reliant Robin, favoured transport of the Trotter family, famous. That fame did not save Reliant Motors which went into receivership. But the company has now been rescued, by another Trotter. Avonex Group Ltd, which recently bought Reliant Motors, is advised by Andrew Trotter, a partner at Brighton law firm Donne Mileham & Haddock, who gets teased about his name. "I have had a fair amount of stick. It has even been suggested that all my partners should drive the cars," he says.

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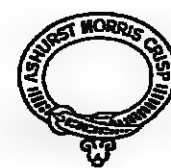
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This essay by Iain Pester won *The Times* Law Awards, sponsored by Norton Rose M5 group

The needs of a successful justice system

Any truly successful justice system must satisfy three requirements. It must be accessible: those who wish to resort to the courts must be able to do so without fearing that the costs of litigation will prove prohibitive. It must be rapid: it should reach a verdict quickly so that both plaintiff and defendant know where they stand in the eyes of the law. And it must be just: at least, as just as possible in dealing with the interests of commerce and the consumer, of the large conglomerate and the individual.

These three requirements are enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights in Article 6(1), but there is increasing perception that the British civil justice system is not achieving them. How can our justice system better fulfil these requirements? Improving the speed at which our courts work requires two institutional changes. Judges must be allowed to play a more interventionist role in structuring the progress of justice in the courts. They should set a firm timetable for various stages of the trial, including a specific date for the hearing.

A system of pre-trial conferences (PTCs) has already been introduced in some common-law jurisdictions. These allow a judge to meet with the barristers of the contending parties to agree on the issues to be raised and the experts to be called. In order not to prejudice the judge presiding at the trial, a different judge should preside at the PTC.

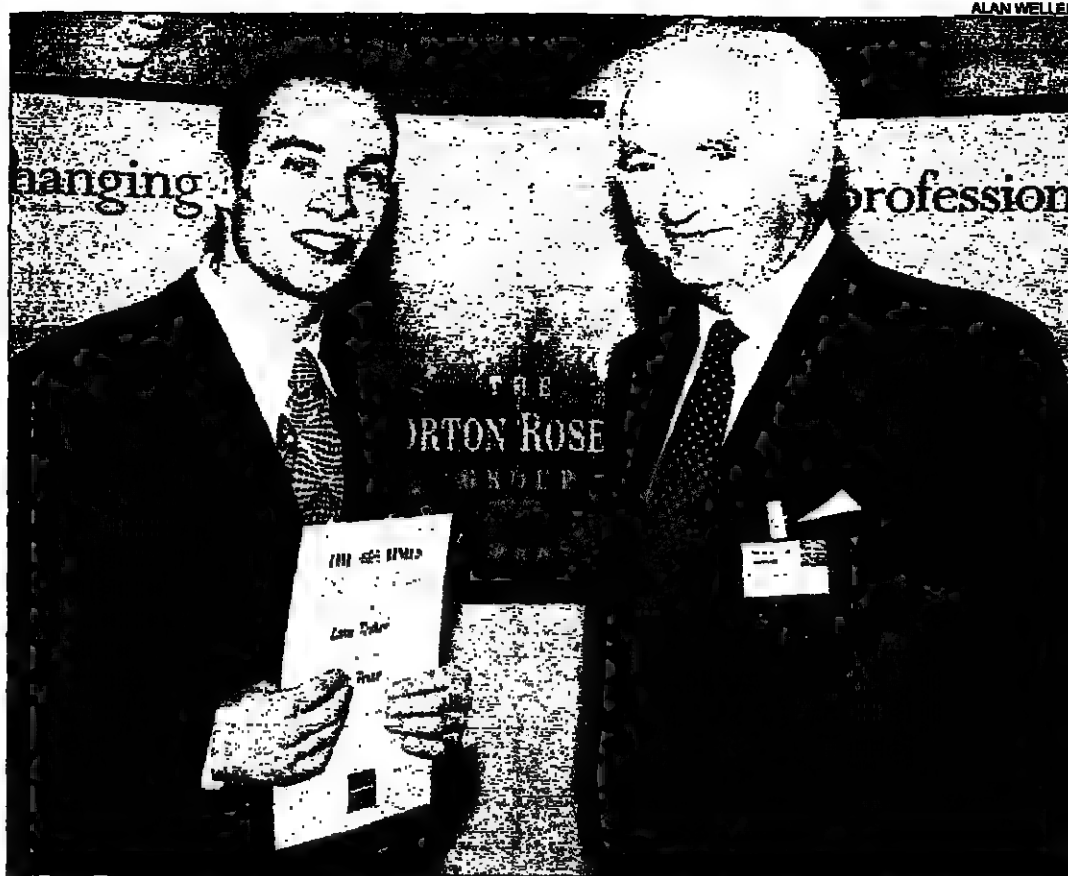
Judges should also be allowed to limit the amount of time allotted to barristers for oral submissions and rely more on written submissions received earlier. There is no need for lengthy expositions by barristers of the issues involved, particularly when the case is not being tried by jury. A room full of experts and expensively trained legal specialists, if they have been well briefed beforehand, can grasp what is at stake after listening to an oral submission of no more than 30 to 45 minutes.

Yet merely streamlining the

progress of a trial is not enough. Consumers of legal services must be given more choice by the development of alternative legal services. This process is proceeding in Britain but should be more actively encouraged. The range of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (ADRs) is vast, from Japanese claim centres which deal with car-accident cases, to American arbitration companies, where retired judges adjudicate commercial disputes.

These services are very valuable, subject to two provisos. They must not be seen as a replacement for the courts but as an alternative to them. If a party is unhappy with the decision of the private arbitration system, he or she should be allowed to resort to the courts. Furthermore, any ADR system set up in this country must be effectively regulated to ensure that it is impartial and meets standards of professional integrity similar to those provided by barristers and solicitors. In this area, choice is the key principle. Parties must not be ordered to resort to arbitration. Yet it should be available to those who desire it.

Developing alternatives to litigation and giving judges a more active role to play will help the requirement of rapidity. But what of accessibility? As the legal aid budget continues to shrink, access to the courts is in danger of becoming available only to the wealthy and the poor. Two methods should be used to combat this



Iain Pester receiving his award certificate from Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor

trend. The first is a "pay-in" fund allowing applicants to receive legal aid if they agree to pay a percentage of damages they might win back into the fund.

Thus, in return for financial support in bringing their case to court, today's litigants would help tomorrow's litigants. Applications for legal aid would be examined to disqualify cases that have little chance of success. This would ensure that the system would be self-financing, as well as avoiding thoughtless litigation.

The second is a system of

contingency fees. The thought of contingency fees usually makes British lawyers cringe, as it raises the spectre of the frenzy of litigation seen in America. This is a false analysis. The problem is not contingency fees per se; rather, it is the excessive and punitive damages awarded by American juries. In societies such as Britain, where more reasonable damages are awarded by judges and the losers must pay the winners' legal costs, an overly litigious society is unlikely to develop. Another sensible rule would be that where a defendant

makes a firm pre-trial offer of damages which the plaintiff turns down, if the plaintiff is then awarded a lesser settlement by the court, he should pay the defendant's legal costs.

Accessibility, rapidity and justice are often thought of as mutually exclusive. A system that enables anyone to bring an action may find itself dealing with a flood of litigation, clogging the courts and encouraging lawyers to drag out the process. On the other hand, if litigation is discouraged, then going to the courts becomes the privilege of those with deep pockets and the individual loses a valuable weapon with which he can challenge the abuses of the powerful.

Yet closer examination reveals that these three requirements are actually interdependent. If the machinery of justice is so slow that the courts become clogged, accessibility suffers; and interminable court cases are not just increasing rapidly makes more room for other cases, and a more accessible and rapid system is more just. By furthering both rapidity and accessibility our civil justice system could better satisfy the needs of all its consumers.

AWARD WINNERS

hosted by Tony Kay, chairman of Norton Rose M5. He said: "I think this competition, which gives people the chance to contribute to the debate on civil justice, is very important. Everyone agrees civil justice is not meeting people's needs."

There were 170 entries. Second prize of £2,000 went to Antony Fleet, a second-year law student at Oxford Brookes University;

and third prize of £1,000 to Joel Wheeler, at the College of Law, Chester. The three runners-up, Seamus Gray, Adam Scarrott and David Stone, each received £250. The other finalists, who received £50 each, were: Ross Weeden, Christine Hayes, Jude Durr and Claire Hinchliffe. The judges were Lord Mackay, Lord Woolf, who is inquiring into civil justice, Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, and Jonathan Barclay, then Chairman of Norton Rose M5 Group.

Getting sleeker all the time

Jo Carr looks at the difficulties facing in-house lawyers across Europe

In-house lawyers working for companies and firms across Europe are trying to work out how to improve their departmental efficiency as the drive to cut costs continues.

How are they measuring up to this challenge? When compiling a listing of more than 2,000 of Europe's leading in-house lawyers for European Counsel Direct, we asked them how they viewed their future role and their changing approach to management.

The message from the results is clear. The days of assuming that because there are no complaints there are no problems are gone. In-house lawyers will have to improve productivity. To do that they will have to become more focused and put systems in place to measure whether they are achieving their objectives.

Dr Beat Hess, general counsel at Asea Brown Boveri in Switzerland, says: "By the year 2000 the volume of legislation and the increasingly international nature of business will be such that there will be an even greater demand for legal advice. In spite of this companies will still want to reduce the size of their legal departments."

So the pressure on lawyers to increase their productivity and improve their problem-solving skills will increase, he says. Julian Armstrong, general counsel at Esso UK plc, agrees. He predicts that over the next five years the pressures on his legal department will include "reducing operating costs, in particular the fixed costs of employees. The value added in return for those fixed costs will be crucial."

Stephen Allott from McKinsey & Co agrees: "In-house lawyers have to contribute to the success of the business by helping it make money." Over 70 per cent of European legal departments are centralised, but now the trend is going in the opposite direction.

Dr Fabio Moretti, general counsel of Benetton Group, says: "It will become more and more important to decentralise the legal department in order to integrate lawyers more fully with the business."

The use of technology is helping to achieve this without jeopardising the united approach which is the strength of centralised departments. Cable & Wireless operates its legal department on a functionally linked, decentralised basis. It is developing a computer database which will link the lawyers worldwide, creating a "virtual department".

The survey brings some good news for lawyers in private practice. At present European companies aim to do an average of 85 per cent of their company's legal work in-house, although

that figure is reduced to 71 per cent in the UK. However, says Wilhelm Schlaus, general counsel at Deutsche Bank AG: "In the best case scenario legal departments will either maintain their present size or grow only moderately."

Firms will have to put out work to external lawyers

have to balance the increase in their workload by out-sourcing more work to external lawyers. Those external lawyers will also have to change the way they operate. Says Hans Peter Frick, general counsel of Nestlé in Switzerland: "Specialist support will be obtained, not from firms which are active worldwide, but on a case-by-case basis from local specialists." They will be expected to know their clients' businesses inside out and provide cost-effective advice.

The majority of respondents measured what managers thought of their performance. British companies lagged behind their Continental counterparts in one area—the provision of language training.

Josephine Carr & Robert Dow are editors of *European Counsel Direct*, published today. Further details from 0171 738 2303.

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Power to detain asylum seekers

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department and Another, Ex parte Khan, Regina v Same, Ex parte Virk, Regina v Same, Ex parte Singh
Before Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Oton and Sir Ralph Gibson

Judgment February 3]

An illegal immigrant who subsequently sought political asylum in the United Kingdom could be lawfully detained by an immigration officer pending the giving of directions and pending his removal in pursuance of any directions given.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal by the Secretary of State for the Home Department and the Chief Immigration Officer from an order of Mr Justice Dyson (The Times January 25) who had granted to each of the applicants, Rehmat Khan, Parmjit Singh Virk, Indarpal Singh and Pal Taggar, an order that a writ of habeas corpus ad subjunctendum be issued to secure his release from detention under paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 2 to the Immigration Act 1971.

Paragraph 9 of Schedule 2 to the 1971 Act provides: "Where an illegal entrant is not given leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom, an immigration officer may give any directions for his removal from the United Kingdom as are authorised by paragraph 8(1)."

Paragraph 10 provides: "Where it appears to the secretary of state... (a) that directions might be given under paragraph 8 or 9... but that it is not practicable for them to be given or that, if given, they would be ineffective... the secretary of state may give the owners or agents of any ship or aircraft any directions to arrange

for his removal) as are authorised by paragraph 8(1)."

Paragraph 16 provides: "(2) A person in respect of whom directions may be given under paragraphs 8 to 14... may be detained under the authority of an immigration officer pending the giving of directions and pending his removal in pursuance of any directions given."

Section 6 of the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993 provided: "During the period beginning when a person makes a claim for asylum and ending when the secretary of state gives him notice of the decision of the claim, he may not be removed from, or required to leave, the United Kingdom."

Mr David Pannick QC, Mr Robert Jay and Mr Steven Kovats for the secretary of state and the Chief Immigration Officer; Mr Alper Raza QC and Mr Arthur Blake for the first, second and third applicants; Mr Sibaht Kadri, QC and Mr Terence Gallivan for the fourth applicant.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that the applicants, who admitted they were illegal immigrants, had each sought political asylum before he was detained by the immigration officer. These applications had not yet been determined.

The immigration officer had served notices on each of them, informing him that as an illegal immigrant he was a person "who was liable to be detained pending the completion of arrangements for dealing with him under paragraph 16, and indicating that the immigration officer proposed to give directions for his removal from the United Kingdom in due course and authorised his detention."

The applicants had contended that while their applications for political asylum were being

considered, no directions for their removal could be given, by virtue of section 6 of the 1993 Act, and that therefore they were not persons "in respect of whom directions may be given" and thus not liable to be detained under paragraph 16(2).

In his Lordship's judgment, the application of Schedule 2 to the 1971 Act to the applicants was demonstrable. They were illegal entrants not given leave to enter or remain. Accordingly under paragraph 9 an immigration officer could give such directions for their removal as were authorised by paragraph 8(1).

It was obviously not practicable that directions for removal be given now so under paragraph 10 the secretary of state could give directions requiring arrangements to be made for their removal.

By force of paragraph 16(2) pending the giving of directions, the applicants might be detained, just as pending deportation the person concerned might be detained while the appeal process was being exhausted, notwithstanding that no deportation order could be made pending appeal.

Nothing in section 6 of the 1993 Act prevented any of the applicants being persons in respect of whom directions might be given: what it prevented was the giving of directions for removal while the applications for asylum were outstanding.

While asylum was being sought the power to give directions existed, but its exercise did not oblige the secretary of state to exercise it either at once or at all. The effect of the asylum application was merely to protect the period during which in consequence of the intention to give directions for their removal the applicants were liable to be detained.

Parliament could not sensibly have intended that any illegal

immigrant who was apprehended could, by claiming asylum, avoid detention unless and until his asylum claim had been investigated and dismissed. That he could then be detained would be irrelevant if he could no longer be investigated.

Although the immigration officer intended to give directions for the applicants' removal he could not do so pending the determination of their asylum applications.

Since there was reason to fear that unless detained they might abscond, pending the giving of directions and their removal, they had been detained. If the asylum applications were granted, they would cease to be persons in respect of whom directions might be given and the power to detain them would lapse.

The judge had come to a wrong conclusion on this issue and the writs of habeas corpus should be set aside.

LORD JUSTICE OTON agreed.

SIR RALPH GIBSON, concurring, said that section 6 of the 1993 Act had enacted as a rule of domestic law that which had previously existed as an international obligation supported by the immigration rules laid before Parliament under section 3(2) of the 1971 Act.

Nothing was said in section 6 about detention pending a decision of an asylum claim. There was no reason why this could be derived from the 1993 Act as applied to the 1971 Act to attribute to Parliament the enactment of section 6 the intention to deprive the secretary of state of discretionary power to detain, when the facts warranted such a course, an illegal immigrant pending decision of his asylum claim.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Malik, Manchester; K. C. Cohen & Rhodes, Leeds.

Corporation tax scheme valid

Piggott (Inspector of Taxes) v Staines Investments Ltd
Before Mr Justice Knox
[Judgment January 31]

The anti-avoidance principles laid down by the House of Lords in *WT Ramsay Ltd v IRC* [1982] AC 309 did not apply to transactions undertaken by BAT Industries plc to remedy its inability to recover large amounts of surplus advance corporation tax (ACT).

Although the various transactions were "pre-arranged" and effected solely for tax mitigation purposes, they could not be treated as a composite whole in a way which excluded the right to claim repayment under the provisions of section 239 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Mr Justice Knox so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal brought by the Crown by way of case stated from a determination of a special commissioner (Judge Stephen Oliver, QC) that the claim made by Staines Investments Ltd under section 239(3) for repayment of £58,609,778 was a valid claim.

BAT Co Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of BAT Industries plc (BAT), received dividends from overseas subsidiaries and paid dividends to BAT.

BAT Co Ltd was liable for paying ACT but its liability for corporation tax was reduced by double taxation relief in respect of overseas taxes. As a result BAT Co Ltd found itself paying "irrecoverable" ACT.

BAT took steps to remedy the inability to recover tax. It acquired a dormant subsidiary of Tesco plc, Staines Investments Ltd, a company that had paid mainstream corporation tax amounts potentially available for carry-back under section 239(3). The purpose was to channel the dividends from BAT Co Ltd to BAT via Staines.

Four steps were implemented: (1) In February 1991 BAT purchased the share capital of Staines, (2) BAT transferred its 100 per cent shareholding in BAT Co Ltd to Staines in exchange for an issue of shares, (3) In December 1991 BAT Co Ltd paid Staines a dividend of £176,641,428 and (4) Staines paid a dividend of £176,641,428 to BAT.

Mr Alan Moses, QC and Mr Michael Furness for the Crown; Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Hugh McKay for Staines Investments Ltd.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that section 239(3) of the 1988 Act permitted in certain circumstances the repayment of ACT where a company had what was called surplus ACT, that is, ACT which could not be set against the company's liability for the period in question, but had paid ACT in respect of distributions made by it in any accounting period beginning in the six years preceding that period.

The Crown contended that a proper application of the principles laid down in *Ramsay* and in *IRC v Burnside* [1982] STC 301 and *Furniss v Dawson* [1984] AC 474 disentitled Staines from making the otherwise valid repayment claim.

The result, it was argued, was that the payment by Staines of the £176.6 million dividend to BAT in December 1991 on which Staines had paid £58.6 million ACT was one of a series of four pre-arranged steps effected solely for tax mitigation purposes which constituted a composite transaction the end result of which was a payment to BAT of the £176.6 million which was not on its proper interpretation a dividend payment by Staines.

The commissioner in his determination had accepted the Crown's argument that the transactions were a series of pre-arranged steps effected solely for tax mitigation purposes but held that there was no rational basis by which those four steps could be recharacterised as one composite whole in a way which excluded Staines' claim for repayment. The Crown argued against the second part of the

determination and Staines against the first part.

The very experienced commissioner, and his experience included the role of leading counsel for the taxpayer in *Furniss v Dawson*, had not applied the wrong test in deciding whether or not the four steps constituted a pre-arranged series of transactions. Nor could it be held that his conclusion that they did was wrong.

Mr Moses argued that the commissioner erred in not holding that the transactions he treated as a composite whole in a way which excluded Staines' claim for repayment. But Mr Moses had accepted that the enduring steps taken had to be taken account of and not disregarded.

Thus the share structure at the end of the pre-arranged steps had to be recognised in the recharacterisation for which the Crown contended. That excluded any recharacterisation which ignored Staines and treated the overall transaction as a payment of a dividend by BAT Co Ltd to BAT.

The commissioner had rejected Mr Moses' argument for a recharacterisation by postulating a quadripartite contract between BAT, BAT Co Ltd, Staines and Tesco under which Staines had

accepted a contractual obligation to hand over to BAT the dividend which BAT Co Ltd was to pay to Staines.

The commissioner was right. It was not possible to treat the payment by BAT Co Ltd to Staines as anything other than a dividend. If and so long as all the shares in BAT Co Ltd were held by Staines such a distribution could only be by way of dividend paid to Staines.

The application of *Ramsay* principles to the normal operation of the three-tier structure of BAT Co Ltd, Staines and BAT, which the Crown accepted as one of the enduring consequences forming part of the end result of the scheme, would be to go further than had been done in any other case in that it involved a recharacterisation of a perfectly normal and straightforward commercial transaction into a thoroughly abnormal and unusual transaction whose only merit, if that was the right word, was that it attracted a tax disadvantage. That was to go far beyond disregarding steps only taken for a tax advantage and not for any commercial purpose.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue Herbert Smith.

Power to remove braziers from the highway

Scott and Another v Westminster City Council
Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Waite and Sir Tassie Watkins
[Judgment January 27]

A briar mounted on a barrow and being used to sell hot chestnuts to the public at Oxford Circus was a "thing unlawfully deposited on the highway" which the highway authority could remove forthwith under the provisions of section 149 of the Highways Act 1980.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Westminster City Council from Mr Justice Ian Kennedy who on January 20, 1994 had upheld claims by the plaintiffs, Mr James Scott and Mr George Kiznyski for the return of their braziers on the basis that their removal by council officers had been unlawful.

Section 149 of the 1980 Act provides: "(1) If any thing is so deposited on a highway as to constitute a nuisance, the highway authority for the highway may by notice require the person who deposited it to remove it forthwith and if he fails to comply with the notice the authority may make a complaint to a magistrates' court for a removal and disposal order..."

"(2) If the highway authority for any highway has reasonable grounds for considering - (a) that any thing unlawfully deposited on the highway constitutes a danger to users of the highway, and (b) that the thing in question ought to be removed without delay involved in giving notice or obtaining a removal and disposal order... the authority may remove the thing forthwith."

Mr Robert Blackford for Westminster; Mr Charles P. A. Salter for Mr Scott; Mr Kiznyski did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE WAITE said that on December 14, 1993 the plaintiffs, Mr Scott and Mr Kiznyski were selling hot chestnuts from cylindrical braziers mounted on four-wheeled barrows.

They had no street trader's licence. Council officers, having formed the view that the braziers constituted a nuisance removed them.

The judge decided that the braziers were not "deposited". He said "it is stretching words beyond their natural meaning to say something was 'deposited' if (a) the person responsible for it is standing by it and (b) he has not demonstrated unwillingness to move it if asked to do so. 'Deposit' in itself has some connotation of extent in time, and connotes putting and leaving. Trading without a licence is not enough. If he went away for any length of time then it could be said that the item had been deposited."

The judge was wrong. The verb "to deposit" was a term of wide connotation apt to describe the placing of one object on another. It could be used in a limitless number of contexts. But unless the context in which it appeared required it should be used in a broad sense.

In the context of section 149 there might be borderline cases, for example it might be difficult to say that a traveller selling from a suitcase had "deposited" it by placing it on the ground.

Here the case was clear. The braziers on their barrows stationed on the highway with attendants selling from them were to be regarded as "deposited" on the highway.

The council officers had reasonable grounds for thinking that the braziers were a danger: a nuisance to those members of the public at risk of being burnt.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE and Sir Tassie Watkins agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Colin T. Wilson; Wilson Barco.

Market determines hold-over rent

Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ Canterbury v Whitbread plc
Before Judge Roger Cooke
[Judgment January 30]

Where a lessee held over under a lease with the consent of the lessor but there was evidence that the parties were in disagreement as to the rent to be paid, there was no presumption that the rent continued to be the rent under the lease. The appropriate rent was the market rent.

Judge Cooke so held in a reserved judgment sitting as a judge in the Chancery Division on an action by the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ Canterbury, the lessor of a public house known as

the Tudor Tavern for mesne profits/damages for use and occupation of the premises at a rate of £55,000 a year from the lessee, Whitbread plc.

Mr Anthony Radovsky for the landlord; Mr Louis Schaffer for Whitbread.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Whitbread was the lessee of the Tudor Tavern public house with an adjoining restaurant under a lease that expired on September 28, 1991. The lessee remained in possession of the premises for just under a year but had not as yet paid any rent.

The rent under the lease was £27,500 a year and was the sum which the lessee proposed it should pay for the period in which it had held over under the lease. The rent

claimed by the lessor was £55,000, a sum paid by the tenant who succeeded Whitbread.

The lessee was a tenant at will. The initial purpose of the holding over had been to negotiate terms for a new tenancy but agreement was never reached about the amount of the rent to be paid.

The basic rule in *Woodfall, Landlord and Tenant* (volume 1, release No 21 at 6.062) was that where there was a tenancy at will at a fixed rent that rent was payable but that where there was no fixed rent an action for use and occupation might be maintained.

There were, however, two authorities which suggested that there were circumstances where in such a holding over situation the rent might be presumed to be the

rent under the old tenancy. They were *Elgar v Watson* (1842) 2 C & M 494 and *Therford v Tyler* (1845) 8 QB 59.

His Lordship considered those authorities and concluded that if there was evidence that the parties were in disagreement with each other and one was in disagreement with the proposition that the old rent should be the rent payable then the presumption that the rent under the old lease continued to be payable did not apply and the value was the market rent.

He accordingly assessed the market rent at £43,560 a year. As the actual period of holding over was 388 days, the sum to be paid was £42,724.60.

Solicitors: Lee Bolton & Lee; Field Fisher Waterhouse.

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Attractive + financial sector benefits Milton Keynes

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As a property solicitor you will provide accurate and sound legal and practical advice on all aspects of residential property and lending transactions. Your specific responsibilities will include the conduct of all files, from inception to close including correspondence with all parties, as well as advising clients on deadlines and any complex issues or delays.

A minimum of two years' post-qualification experience is required, which should include detailed and up-to-date knowledge of residential conveyancing. Experience of mortgage lending transactions is desirable, although not essential.

The role demands the flexibility to deal with conflicting priorities, and the capacity to produce high quality work to tight deadlines. A team player able to grasp and assimilate new areas of the law, you must also be capable of communicating effectively at all levels.

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For an application form, please contact Samantha Endell, Head Office Personnel, Central Milton Keynes, Telephone (0908) 343677. Alternatively, write to Samantha, Abbey National Plc, Abbey House, 201 Grafton Gate East, Central Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK5 1AN. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Tuesday 21st February 1995. Please quote reference PAC2507.

In pursuing our policy of equality of opportunity for all, Abbey National positively welcomes applications from every section of the community.

ABBEY NATIONAL

Promoting Success Through Equality

11/11/19

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Pittodrie favourite as a player, lifting the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1983.

from the end. Between them Maninderjit Singh scored twice — from short corners — to give Malaysia the lead, one for it to be pegged back by Igor Ioulitchev, the Kazakhstan captain, in the 52nd minute also from a short corner.

For England to reach the last four, they must beat Malaysia and rely on Kazakhstan beating India.

ENGLAND: S. Mason (Preston) 4; W. Riechers (Barnsley) 1; R. Brown (Reading) 1; S. Hazledine (Hull) 1; M. Scovell (Barnsley) 1; T. Walker (Cardiff) 1; M. Sutton (Barnsley) 1; W. Woods (Scarbrough) 1; P. Fordham (Hull) 1; J. M. Conway (Gillingham) 1; J. L. East (Grimsby) 1; C. Giles (Preston). Positions after two matches: Pool A: Kazakhstan 4 pts, 2; India 3, 3; England 1, 1.

SOLUTION TO WINNING GUESS ABOVE

[illegible]

Answers from page 44

SERTAO

(b) In geography, the name of an arid, barren region characterised by Caatinga, in the interior of Pernambuco and neighbouring states in northeast Brazil also applied to other regions in Brazil of similar character. From the Portuguese word, the word sertão has been used to describe the vast, sparsely populated, marginal landscape of northeast Brazil consisting of three major divisions: marginal lowlands, *sertão*, parched uplands of brushwood and grasses, *sertão* elevated mountainous zones.

SIVAN

(a) The sixth month of the Jewish year, though named third in the traditional month-list, corresponding to the latter part of the rainy and early June, an adaptation of the Hebrew *swān*. It is Whiston's translation of Josephus' Jewish War, 1:279. This gift happened upon the twentieth day of the month *Desius* (Sivan) **TAPODO**

(a) A poisonous puffer-fish of the family Tetraodontidae, an Australian slang. "Few fish in the sea pack such deadly poisons as the toadfish."

WITBLIZ

(c) Home-brewed brandy, a strong and colourless raw spirit of Afrikaans, an irregular formation from the Dutch *wit* "white" and German *blitz* lightning. "In cases of snakebite people on the plateland have always run for the witbliz."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Rxb2 Qxb2 2. Qxb2 Nxh3 3. d7 and the pawn moves

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

"This side is learning about itself. I hope the confidence and belief is built up and players understand that, if

Dallaglio (Wescot), G Archer (Newcastle)
 (Sarnia), R Snow (Sarnia), R Hill (Sarnia),
 A Diprose (Sarnia), C Repulse
 (W Greenwood (Hartlepool)), P
 Chaffin (Hartlepool), M Dawson (North-
 umberland), M Easton, M Pagan (Sarnia),
 C Wilders (Hartlepool).

ENGLAND EMERGING PLAYERS M
 Cresswell (Northampton), P
 Baines (Northampton), G Childs (Wescot),
 P Mensah (Hartlepool), S Macken-
 (Leicester), P Grayson (Northampton), R
 Adams (Sarnia), D Hindle (Sarnia), R
 Jenkins (Hartlepool), M Heag (Sarnia), R
 Jones (Glossop), P Grayson (Hartlepool),
 P Jones (Glossop), C Harrison (Hartlepool).
 Replacements: P Holt (Glossop), R Bullard
 (Sarnia), M Olsen (Sarnia), D Crompton
 (Sarnia), M Gurney (Sarnia), M Gurney
 (Newcastle), Gostford.

County v Leeds United (7/9); Evanton v Rothiemund United (7/9).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City v Charlton Athletic; second division: Exeter City v Exeter City; Harnay Borough, 7/20, Tottenham Hotspur v Crystal Palace (lost at St Albans City, 2/20); West.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Gloucestershire v Cambridge City (7/49); second division: Gloucestershire v Gloucestershire.

BIRMINGHAM LEAGUE: First division: Midland division: Bedworth United v Redditch United; Hincley Town v Armitage; second division: Birmingham City v Birmingham City; Enfi and Belvedere v Bury Town; Poole Town v Weymouth; Dr Martens Club v Birmingham City; Birmingham City v Birmingham City; Chalfont Town v Westborough.

Fourth round replay: Rushden and Diamonds v Rushden and Diamonds.

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Abingdon Town v Bognor Regis Town; second division: Abingdon Town v Abingdon Town; Egham Town, Chesshurst v Oxford City.

Third division: Chesshurst Town v Eastleigh.

UNBONO LEAGUE: First division: Athenry LY v Lancaster City; Warrington Town v Warrington Town.

SUNSHINE IRISH LEAGUE: Newry v Glenties.

WELSH LEAGUE OF WALES CUP: Third round, first leg: Helywell v Conwy.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Third round, first leg: Helywell v Conwy.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Eastwood Harriers v Eastwood Harriers.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Haghigh United v Harwich and Parkeston.

Offitions	Runs to resort	Weather (Sprm)	Last snow
crust	fair	fine	4 30/1
crust skusy (at afternoon)			
varied	closed	sun	5 5/2
varied	resort runs closed		
varied	good	sun	-1 4/2
varied	(over clear blue sky)		
varied	good	sun	-3 2/2
I well despite hot sun)			
varied	fair	sun	2 30/1
varied	lopes surprisingly quiet)		
varied	good	fine	-6 30/1
varied	(no ice or wet snow)		
poor	fair	fine	3 28/1
	(south side of Harneau)		
varied	good	fine	0 4/2
well-groomed (pistes)			
varied	good	fine	2 4/2
skishing everywhere)			
heavy	good	sun	2 4/2
(no queues and warm sun)			

wet slopes, U - Upper, art - artificial. |



BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

First Chapple nipped a ball back through Dravid's defences to have him leg-before for 47 and from 114 for three.

Chapple's next victim was Avinash Vaidya, caught behind again by Piper for nought. England A sensing that this hard-fought contest

INDIA A: First innings 229 (R Dravid 58; G

Chapple 4 (for 60)

Second Innings	
*V S Rathore bow b Patel	18
G Khandu bow b Chappelle	0
S C Chappelle c Piper b Cork	8
R Ward bow b Chappelle	47
A J Stanger out b Chappelle	1
R Sharmach c Piper b Chappelle	4
14 Vaidya c Piper b Chappelle	0
U Chaudhri run out	6
K S Khambhani b Patel	0
K Singh run out	2
Extras (b 1, lb 1, w 1, nb 1)	6
Total (8 wickets)	136
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-23, 3-33, 4-114, 5-120, 6-120, 7-128, 8-132	
BOWLING: Cork 10-6-25-1; Chappelle 14-11-30-4; Patel 27-11-34-2; Johnson 7-0-13-0, 8-1-23-0	

Min Patel, the slow left-arm spinner, was rewarded for his long, accurate spell from the pavilion end when Paras Mhambrey was bowled be-

Chapple said: "I just tried to bowl straight and things worked out for me. The wickets certainly came just at the

England A had resumed their first innings on 145 for seven, with a determined ninth-wicket partnership of 56 between Patel (35) and Piper (30) boosting their total

BY NORMAN DE MESOUTTA

group of five teams covered by only seven points. Fife are eighth — in the last of the play-off positions — but have ten points to spare over the Pirates. They could yet be the dark horses at play-off time.

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

GREAT BR

man of selectors, said that Green had been selected as a British citizen and that his appearance for Jamaica last year did not preclude him because of the different rules of eligibility governing the

Obituary, page 21

WOMEN: S Douglas (Sale), P Thomas (Thirford), 200cs: Thomas, M Richardson (Windsor, Slough and Eton) 400m; S Gunnell (Essex Ladies), M Neal (York City Ladies), 1,500m; S Hurrell (Plymouth), C Gibson (Loughborough), A Hayward, L Gibson (Oxford City), 3,000m; Z Hyde (Woking), A Wyeth (Parkside) 60m hurdles; J Aggeyong (Christiansburg Barnes), K O'Connell (St Albans) 80m hurdles; R Gunnell, N Neal, S Earnshaw (Rotherham), S McGinn (Lisburn), J Stoute (Bromley), M Thomas (Bechtold), High jump; L Higgett (Croydon), Long jump; S Hurrell (Plymouth), S Stoute, S Ladies, S Stanton (Rushmore), Long jump; Y Idowu (Essex Ladies), D Lewis (Bechtold), Triple jump; M Griffin (Windsor, Slough and Eton), R Kirby (Skeelsville), Shot; J Davies (Croydon), M

Matt Moner: Tribute to a Song Stylist. Radio 2, 9.00pm.

Fig. 1. Field Noctuidae, Radio 3, 10.30mm.

If you tune in late to this programme, will you, I wonder, say to yourself: "The Times must have got it wrong! This is Chopin, not—what's his name, Field?" You will not be alone if you do think that. Field, a Dubliner, invented the nocturne and we can speculate whether, if he had not, Chopin would have gone on to earn for himself the title of the first poet of the piano. Field anticipated and influenced Chopin's piano works. Chopin himself once admitted that concertgoers were coupling his name with Field's. Daniel Admi is playing all of the Irishman's nocturnes on Radio 3. Tonight, it's numbers 4 and 10. Peter Daville

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English
4.45 Frühmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00
Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today
7.00 News 7.15 Strong Poison 7.30
New Ideas 7.50 The Life of Numball
8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15
Concert Hall 9.00 News 9.05 Business
9.15 The Essential Quran 9.30 On
Screen 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01
Discovery 10.30 Ports of Call 11.00
Discovery 11.00

Sport 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05
 Outlook 2.30 Strong Poison 2.45 Turning
 a Tune 3.00 News 3.15 A Jolly Good
 Show 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30
 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business
 5.15 BBC English 6.00 Newdesk 6.30
 Heute Aktuell 7.00 News 7.05 Outlook
 7.30 Andy Kershaw 8.00 News 8.10
 Words of Faith 8.15 The World Today
 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 Newshour
 10.00 News 10.05 Business 10.15
 Megamax 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newdesk
 11.30 Omnibus 12.00 News 12.15am
 Concert Hall 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook
 1.30 What's News? 1.45 Country Style

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly
12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm
Lunchtime Concerto: Mendelssohn (Vi-
olin Concerto in D minor) 3.00 Jame
Crnk 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The
Opera Guide 8.00 Evening Concert
10.00 Mark Griffiths 1.00am Tim

VIRGIN
6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast 9.00
Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene
4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Paul Coyte
11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00-5.00pm Janey
Lee Grace

2.00 Schools: Playtime 2.15 Time to Move 2.35 Listen!
3.00 Some Versions of Pastoral: Presented by Piers Burton-Page. Including excerpts from works by Gay, Britten, Finzi, Ireland, Hadley, Orr, Gurney and Warlock
5.00 The Music Makers:

5.15 In Tune: Including 5.16
Michael Haydn (Symphony in F); Respighi (Feste romane); Monteverdi (Two Madrigals, Second Book of Madrigals, 1590)

7.30 Pebble Mix: Mosaïques Quartet performs Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 33

**9.10 The English Cadence, with
Jeremy Summery**
**9.25 Delfius: Sakuntala; Paa
Viddens: Seven Danish
Songs** *Alfred Mortimer*

10.30 The John Field Nocturnes: See Choice
10.45 Night Waves: With Roy Porter, including the first review of a new production of *Romeo and Juliet*
11.30-12.30a, The BBC Orchestra: BBC Scottish

1.00-2.10 Night School: History
8-11 1.40 Tales from Europe

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope:
Sarah Maguire reads a new

5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and
Unda Lewis 5.55 Shipping
Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.15 If You're So Clever Why
Aren't You Rich? Comedy
by Paul Shearer and Richard

7.00 News 7.05 The Anchors
7.20 File on 4: Alison Hillard
reports
8.00 Science Now: Peter Evans
presents the weekly review of
discoveries and
developments in science (r)
8.30 Gossling en France: More
than 3,000 French celtis close

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59
Weather

0.00 The World Tonight, with
Isabel Hilton

0.45 Book at Bedtime: The
Initiate in the Heart, by

1.30-12.00 Hidden Voices (FM
 only): Portraits of Muslims in
 Europe (5/6) (r)
 1.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
 2.00-12.43am News incl 12.27
 Weather 12.33 Shipping
 12.43 As World Service (LW)

W KADR: 11520-12/261m: FM-
85.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD
SIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN:
compiled by Peter Dear and

Worth suspending your disbelief for theirs

With Christopher's rambling speech showing just how little Richard Curtis had to make up for *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and Rob being so badly stitched up in the editing that friends had to be drafted in to remind us he was "great bloke", the last word was left to Pete. "At the end of the day, I have got a beautiful wife and it's going to stay that way till I die. Not a dry eye."

REVIEW



The acting throughout was of a high quality, with David Rasche as the sinister Brother Nahum particularly convincing. But Eaton had given the best lines to Warner as the socially faithless Palmoro

pretty as a picture and looked about 12 and Pete, whose wispy goatee beard only partially disguised late teens. The "it" was getting married.

Julie and Pete were one of three couples selected by director Lucy Sandys-Winsch to illustrate the modern institution of marriage. As an idea, it's been done about a thousand times before but was still wonderfully watchable, confirm-

middle-class rich and got engaged on a skiing holiday. Jo and Rob would probably be all right — they were self-made rich and permanently engaged on mobile telephones. Julie and Pete, however, were teenagers living in a tower block on income support and engaged in nothing.

As the three stories unfolded, the cutting acquired an aggressive edge that may not have expressed

With Christopher's rambling speech showing just how little Richard Curtis had to make up for *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and Rob being so badly stitched up in the editing that friends had to be drafted in to remind us he was "great bloke", the last word was left to Pete. "At the end of the day, I have got a beautiful wife and it's going to stay that way till I die. Not a dry eye."

BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast (28571)
- 9.00 BBC Breakfast News (62987216)
- 9.05 Kilroy. Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (9332007)
- 10.00 News (Cefax), regional news and weather (7408216) 10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (8897552)
- 12.00 News (Cefax), regional news and weather (1210842) 12.05 Pebble Mill (2446484) 12.55 Regional News and weather (75691674)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (Cefax) and weather (72007)
- 1.30 Neighbours. (Cefax) (s) (82346823) 1.50 Timeskeepers. Quiz show. The question-master is Gill Dool (s) (82357936)
- 2.15 Scoop. Second round action from the Benson and Hedges Masters, introduced by Douglas Donnelly from the Wembley Conference Centre (s) (614291)
- 3.50 Jeopardy. Imelda Staunton with Jenny Nimmo's *Delish and the Dishwater Dogs* (s) (30136629) 4.00 Willy Fog. (Cefax) (2700129) 4.25 Griminy (4733674) 4.35 Incredible Games. (Cefax) (s) (6569281)
- 5.00 Newsworld (7563736) 5.10 Grange Hill. (Cefax) (s) (9099216)
- 5.35 Neighbours (r). (Cefax) (s) (607007)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Cefax) and weather (804)
- 6.30 Regional news magazines (484)
- 7.00 Holiday. Jill Dando samples a spa hotel just outside London. Gregory is in St Leger. Sheryl Simms reports from the Isle of Scilly and Sandra Gatre continues his series of reports on working holidays, this week in the United States. (Cefax) (s) (8213)
- 7.30 EastEnders. (Cefax) (s) (666)

PRC2

6.20 Open University: The Quality Assistant (796367)
6.45 Le Corbusier and the Villa La Roche (829962)
7.10 Changing Experience of Education (82331) 29

8.00 BBC Breakfast News. (Cefax) and signing (734668) 8.15 **Westminster On-Line.** Sir Bernard Inghem welcomes Michael Measor, MP (4327668)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus for children, 10.00-10.25 Playdays (2374113) 1.40-1.45 **You and Me** (96379656) 2.00 Gordon T. Gopher (28430194)

2.10 Horizon: Air Crash - The Deadly Puzzle. Film of an aircraft investigation (7). (Cefax) (s) (2709465)

3.00 News (Cefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (8374991) 3.58 **News** (Cefax) and weather (3000910)

4.00 Today's Day. Recent history quiz (s) (397)


4.30 Snooper. Benson and Hedges Masters (s) (14378)

6.30 First Prince of Bel Air. American teen comedy (s) (130591) 8.25 **Heartbreak High.** Drama about an Australian inner city school. (Cefax) (s) (504378)

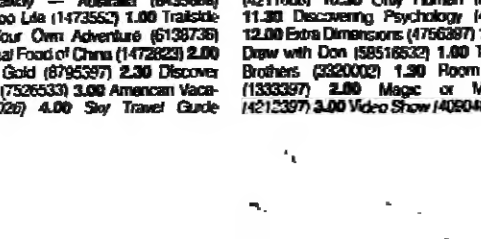
7.15 Dance for the Camera: Alkistis Fish. The second of four dance films (s) (708736)

7.30 Painting the World. Neil MacGregor, director of London's National Portrait Gallery looks at works by 18th and 19th-century painters. (Cefax) (s) (910)

8.00 Public Eye: In the Line of Fire. A report on the dramatic increase in domestic fires. (Cefax) (1465)



of points



CARLTON

6.00pm GMTV (189397)
9.25 **Chain Letters** (4129378) 9.55 **London Today** (Teletext) and weather (2351282)
10.00 **The Time... the Place** with John Stapleton (4558129)
10.35 **This Morning** (90529938) 12.00pm **London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1218028)
12.30 **News** (Teletext) and weather (4135533)
12.55 **Emmerdale** (r). (Teletext) (4134552) 1.25 **How and Away** (Teletext) (8179378)
1.55 **Vanessa**. Vanessa Feltz discusses compulsion behaviour. (Teletext) (s) (6017977) 2.25 **Country Practice** (s) (8111309)
2.50 **Blue Healers** (9000585) 3.20 **ITN News** headline (Teletext) (7888842) 3.25 **London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7888113)
3.30 **The Magic House** (s) (8784025) 3.40 **Tots TV** (3008562) 3.50 **Twinkle the Dream Being** (r) (3008563) 4.00 **Bodge the Little Helicopter** (3110333) 4.15 **The Dreamstone** (Teletext) (4139862) 4.40 **Chris Cross** (r). (Teletext) (1511422)
5.10 **After 5** (Teletext) (8214084)
5.40 **News** (Teletext) and weather (957848)
5.55 **Your Shout**. Viewers' opinions (870007)
6.00 **Home and Away** (r). (Teletext) (200)
6.30 **London Tonight** (Teletext) (562)
7.00 **Emmerdale**. Turner hosts the last night in the Woolpack. (Teletext) (2571)
7.30 **The Big Story**. Dermot Mulcahy investigates how some Metropolitan police officers get away with perjury and assault (s) (736)
8.00 **The Bill**: Just Another Caution. A former cop is charged with the murder of a woman (78901)

CHANNEL:

6.35 Sandokan. Animated pirate adventures (8270738)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (88558)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (s) (89543)

9.30 Schools: Eureka (5928262) 9.45 Slop, Look Listen (5820945) 10.00 Fourways Farm (731910) 10.10 Maths Everywhere (7689741) 10.25 How Used to Live (8934638) 10.45 Coming Together (1098991) 11.00 Science in Focus (7496910) 11 Stage One (2194991) 11.38 Schools at V (8390751) 11.46 First Edition (3578587)

12.00 House to House Political magazine series introduced by Maya Evans (225307)

12.30 Science Street. The guest is Harry Belafonte (77659) 1.30 Wildlife (r) (s) (81329020)

1.55 Western-Beatles. Melody. Animation of Germany, made in 1943 (86270533)

2.05 FILM: Hammer (1947, b/w) starring Veronica Lash Preston Foster and Joel McCrea. Western drama about a rancher battling with a cattle baron who after her land. Directed by André de Toth (45863025)

3.55 FILM: The Way We Were. Televised (8383025)

4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley with another round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (81329020)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The guests are two who love women who are behind bars (r). (Teletext) (s) (7995942)

5.50 Terrystoons. Classic cartoon series (868658)

6.00 FILM: Babylon 5: Points of Departure. Award-winning American science-fiction adventure series starring Bruce Boxleitner (Teletext) (s) (43194)

6.55 Terrystoons featuring Deputy Dawg

VARIATIONS

[illegible]

CTIONS

[illegible]

[illegible]

SATELLITE

[illegible][illegible]

Shorland 300 The
A Country Oprah

W WALES
RTV WEST except 12.20pm-12.30pm
 Wales News and Weather (1218026)
 3.30pm-4.15pm Wales News (788811) 8.30pm
 Wales Tonight (552) 7.20pm-8.00pm
 Wales (793)

OPRAH WINFREY
1966

6:00-6:30 P.M. The 1990 no (589194) 7.25 Fern Cassini Flamm 55683) 6.00 bomber (2304) Dim Teford (732821)	6.00pm Remember the Night (1940) 111832) 6.00 Racing with the Moon (1934) 115387) 10.00-12.00 White Dog (1982) 68891)	12.00 12.30pm - Mel 1.30 The Caldwell Your W lon (1
THE MOVIE CHANNEL 6.00pm Man's Favourite Sport (1964)		

(8019514)

Beach - Australia (8435858),
 Day - Italy (1473552) 1.00 Trade
 Days Our Adventure (6107335)
 Full Food of China (1472822) 1.00
 Gold (6935297) 2.30 Discover
 (7326533) 3.00 American Vacat-
 (323) 4.00 Sky Travel Guide
 Brothers (1232510) 1.00
 (4211628) 3.00 Only Human
 11.00 Discovering Psychology (4)
 12.00 Extra Dimensions (1753887)
 Draw with Don (5851862) 1.00
 Brothers (5220002) 1.30 Room
 (1333337) 2.00 Magic or
 (1212377) 3.00 Video Show 140804

Sandwich

DISCOVERY	
4:30pm Nature Watch (R28666) 4.30	
MTV	
5:00pm Awkward The Grind (R28667) 5.00	
Wildcat (R28668) 5.30	

2.30am Big Bro
New Movie (43-1)

The Smokey Cross (1944) \$06/06/01/1
Whisper (1935) £9150283 **3.00-5.00**
Murder Men (1935) £0753653

CNN/CVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and CVC the home shopping channel

Themer: Tribute to S
7.00 without / post

hour news and CVC
g channel

Wickets tumble after fielding fiasco as rampant Australia grasp control

Fumbling England run to ground

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN PERTH

SOMETIMES a single moment can encapsulate a game of cricket. It happened here yesterday when, in an expression of disgust that degenerated into self-parody, England surrendered their interest in this Test series and prepared for humbling defeat.

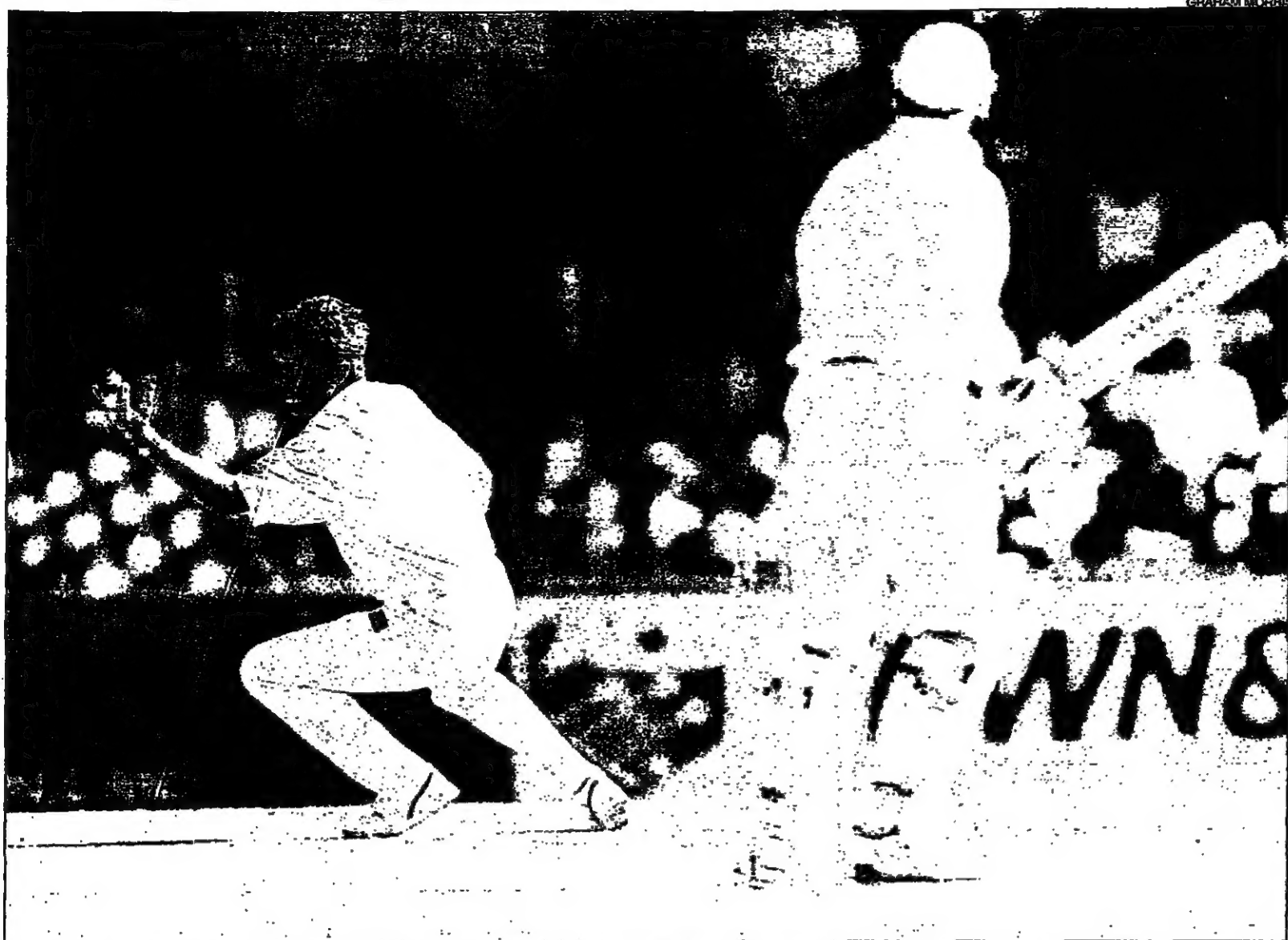
Ten minutes after lunch, Graham Thorpe dropped a slip catch. It was his second miss of the innings and, astonishingly, England's tenth of the match. Thorpe could take no more. He aimed an angry kick at the ball and sent it wide of cover for two bizzarely donated runs. Michael Atherton, the captain, dropped to his haunches, head in hands; Devon Malcolm, the suffering bowler, ranted inaudibly and kicked imaginary backside in mid-pitch.

It was a scene of desolation from a team physically and mentally exhausted. So it was no great surprise that, when Mark Taylor finally found it in him to declare the Australia innings and set a notional target of 453 in seven hours, England batted with such weary resignation that they ended the penultimate day of this final Test on 27 for five.

Thorpe was out first ball, completing a day utterly out of character with his splendid series, and there were to be no heroic farewells from Graham Gooch or Mike Gatting, who scored four and eight respectively in their last Test innings. Typically, Atherton rose above the turmoil but he will have reflected last night that England are consistent only in their inconsistency. They would have competed strongly in this game, might even have been in a winning position, but for indescribably dismal fielding. Briefly, yesterday morning, there was even a possibility that England would be chasing something less than 300 to win.

Australia, resuming with an overall lead of 194 and eight wickets intact, played nervily as Malcolm produced a spell of bowling and well-directed pace since 1989. For Blewett, batting with the maturity of one who has played Test cricket for years, it was a second century in his second game. Only four players have begun their Test career in such style. It was Waugh, when 22, who benefited from Thorpe's fumble and kick. From then on, the session took a set course, with Australia dictating, England compliant and the Barmy Army silent.

Why Taylor continued to bat quite so long remains a mystery. Waugh steered Lewis to gully and Blewett, aiming to hit him straight for six, instead



McDermott hangs on to the catch off his own bowling that brought a swift end yesterday to Gooch's last innings in international cricket

picked out Malcolm at long-on. Ian Healy was batting with a runner and Shane Warne's precious hands were subjected to Malcolm with the new ball. It made no sense. Taylor, however, can simply point to the close-of-play details and claim vindication. England had to negotiate 14 overs without loss to have a genuine chance of saving the

game. They were very lucky to negotiate one. Gooch entered to a prolonged ovation but seemed so overcome that he might have been out to his sixth and ninth balls before falling to his twelfth. Jo Angel made a comical, floundering attempt to catch him at mid-on, when he flapped a short ball from Craig McDermott in a gentle

loop, and Boon failed to cling on to a sharp chance at short leg. Finally, Gooch, drove straight, hit McDermott on the chest and the ball fell kindly for the caught-and-bowled. It was not the long goodbye England followers had in mind.

The most baffling aspect of Gooch's farewell was why he was permitted to play it at No 3, having been off the field with a side strain throughout the Australia innings. The home team appeared not to mind and McDermott quickly bowled Gatting off his pads as he aimed across the line.

Fraser was sent out as nightwatchman with half an hour remaining, a measure that is usually counter-productive. Sure enough, Glenn McGrath removed him leg-before and produced a good one for Thorpe next ball. Taylor took a sharp slip catch and Mark Waugh another as John Crawley, a rabbit in the headlines, claimed a pair.

Atherton stood glumly at the non-striker's end, visions of the 46 all out in Trinidad 11 months ago doubtless planted in his mind. As he left the field, he retained the grace and presence of mind to divert 20 yards and shake the hand of Blewett, a gesture that said as much about Atherton as did the fact that his resilience had seen out even this miserable day.

Photograph, page 42
England A prosper, page 42

PERTH SCOREBOARD

Australia won toss	
Australia: First Innings 402 (M J Slater 124, S R Waugh 96 not out, M E Waugh 88)	
Second Innings	
*M J Slater c Fraser 52	(11min, 122 balls, 9 fours)
M J Slater c Atherton b Fraser 45	(82min, 55 balls, 9 fours)
J Angel run out (Gooch) 0	(7min, 5 balls)
D C Boon c Rhodes b DeFreitas 18	(44min, 31 balls, 4 fours)
M E Waugh c Rhodes b DeFreitas 1	(27min, 14 balls)
S R Waugh c Ramprakash b Lewis 80	(27min, 142 balls, 9 fours)
M E Waugh c Rhodes b DeFreitas 115	(27min, 14 balls)
S R Waugh c Ramprakash b Lewis 80	(27min, 142 balls, 9 fours)
A Healy not out 11	(27min, 14 balls)
S K Warne c Lewis b Malcolm 6	(15min, 12 balls)
A R C Fraser b McGrath 17	(27min, 13 balls)
Total (8 dec, 90.3overs, 404mins) 345	

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-75 (Taylor 28, 2-78 (Taylor 30), 3-102 (Taylor 35), 4-115 (Taylor 47), 5-129 (S R Waugh 3), 6-328 (Blewett 114), 7-333 (Healy 5), 8-365 (Healy 11))	
BOWLING: Malcolm 28.3-3-105-2 (5-1-40, 6-1-28, 1-4-0-0, 3-0-25-0, 1-2-1-1); Fraser 21-3-74-2 (4-1-12-0, 5-1-7-1, 6-1-25-1, 4-0-15-0, 4-0-14-0); Lewis 18-1-27-2 (28, 2-0-11-0, 5-0-25-0, 4-0-24-0, 5-1-18-2); DeFreitas 22-10-54-1 (1st); 14-9-19-1, 6-1-19-0, 1-0-0-0, 1-0-0-0; Ramprakash 9-1-31-0 (1-0-0-0, 7-1-25-0).	
ENGLAND: First Innings 295 (G P Thorpe 123, M R Ramprakash 72)	
Second Innings	
G A Gooch c and b McDermott 4	(11min, 12 balls)
*M A Atherton not out 8	(55min, 37 balls, 1 four)
M W Gatting b McDermott 8	(16min, 14 balls, 1 four)
M W Gatting b McDermott 8	(16min, 14 balls, 1 four)
A R C Fraser b McGrath 5	(27min, 13 balls)
G P Thorpe c Taylor b McGrath 0	(27min, 13 balls)

Doherty's frame of mind found wanting in defeat

BY PHIL YATES

KEN DOHERTY left Wembley Conference Centre yesterday still searching for his first snooker victory of 1995. Doherty's miserable year continued as he lost 5-3 to Peter Ebdon in the second round of the Benson and Hedges Masters.

Doherty, beaten in the first round of both the Liverpool/Victoria Charity Challenge and the Regal Welsh Open, appeared devoid of confidence as Ebdon built a 3-0 lead.

Ebdon, who had beaten Doherty in the final of the 1993 Skoda Grand Prix, won the first frame on the pink, the second when Doherty, ideally placed to clear up, missed a simple yellow off its spot and the third with a break of 78.

At that point, Doherty was in danger of being whitewashed. However, in a total reversal of fortunes, Doherty accounted for the next three frames with runs of 33, 44 and 65.

The Irishman, second to Stephen Hendry on the money-list this season after retaining the Regal Scottish Masters title and reaching the final of the United Kingdom championship, led 2-0 in the seventh frame.

Crucially, though, Doherty then missed a tricky black. Ebdon, frozen out for so long, put together a superb 103 clearance and he duly added the eighth frame, a tense, 33-minute affair, to secure a quarter-final against Hendry, the tournament favourite.

Mark Williams, 19, from Ebbw Vale, made an excellent debut at

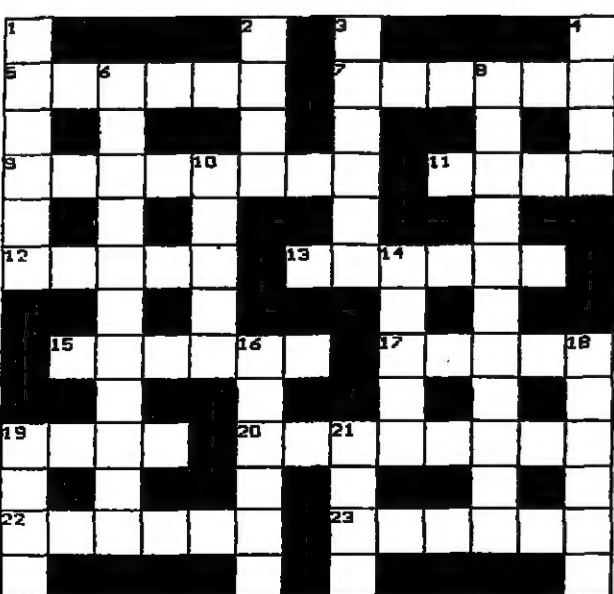
Wembley by beating Willie Thorne 5-0. The gulf in experience counted for nothing as Williams, known for his accurate long potting, overpowered Thorne. Although his positional play on the extremely fast table was slightly suspect, Williams hardly missed a pot of any significance. Williams, a former British under-16 champion, will now play James Wattana, of Thailand, for a quarter-final place.

He is already assured of £11,000, the biggest cheque he has collected

since turning professional in 1992. Breaks of 61, 32 and 50 were the highlights of a convincing display from Williams, which left Thorne, victorious on their two previous meetings, singing the praises of his youthful conqueror.

"Mark played very well. It was like playing against one of the top seeds. It's obviously a bit embarrassing to lose 5-0, but I don't think I did that much wrong," Thorne said.

RESULTS: First round: S Hendry (Scot) 10-5 N Bond (Eng) 5-1; M Williams (Wales) 12-0 W Thorne (Eng) 5-0. Second round: P Ebdon (Eng) 3-0 K Doherty (Ire) 5-3.



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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 389

ACROSS

- 5 Stout fur (6)
- 7 Inflamed spot on skin (6)
- 9 (Tediouly) instructive (8)
- 11 (Tied) tightly; rapidly (4)
- 12 Pass on (message); switch control (5)
- 13 Deprived (6)
- 15 Mildly obscene (6)
- 17 Infective agent (5)
- 19 Variety act; change direction (4)
- 20 Occupying all working hours (4-4); end of game (4,4)
- 22 Conduct oneself (6)
- 23 Specially chosen (6)

DOWN

- 1 Sore; gentle (6)
- 2 Matted fabric; touched (4)
- 3 American Indian tribe; Paris ruffian (6)
- 4 Shoe leather strip; heavy blow (4)
- 6 Eliot novel, Dorothea Brooke's heroine (11)
- 8 Temporise (4,3,4)
- 10 Underground vault (5)
- 14 Entangle; French composer (5)
- 16 Sticky confectionery (6)
- 18 Detective (6)
- 19 Mr Punch's dog; sort of jug (4)
- 21 Blow from whip (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 388

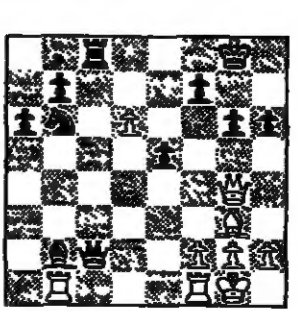
ACROSS: 1 Catnap 4 Turnip 8 Make out 10 Covey 11 Door 12 Pumpkin 14 For effect 15 Arduously 20 Grit 22 Caviar 23 Yard-arm 24 Entire 25 Tennis
DOWN: 1 Comedy 2 Take off 3 Avon 5 Uncapped 6 Naval 7 Peptide 9 Tearfully 13 Granular 15 Terrain 16 Gaudy 17 Stumps 19 Divot 21 Eric

WARNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Engels - Maroczy, Dresden 1936. How did White obtain a winning material advantage with a brilliant combination?

Solution, page 40
Raymond Keene, page 5



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SERTAO
a. The nocturnal monkey-moose
b. A Brazilian desert
c. A woolen cap
SIVAN
a. A Jewish month
b. A blind beggar
c. To sieve or riddle

TOADO
a. Sausage stew
b. A scyphant
c. A poisonous puffer-fish
WITBLITS
a. Chatterlings
b. Trivial pursuit quiz
c. Home-brewed brandy

Answers on page 40

Venables turns to Tottenham in building for the future

BY ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

TRY as he might, Alan Sugar cannot break the links between Terry Venables and Tottenham Hotspur. The England coach yesterday named four players from his former club in his squad for the international against Ireland at Lansdowne on February 15.

Two of the Tottenham players - Nicky Barmby and Sol Campbell - are uncapped, which is hardly surprising since Barmby will be 21 on Saturday and Campbell is still seven months away from that mark. A third uncapped player, Tim Sherwood, is also included.

Rangey and still growing in confidence as the captain of the FA Carling Premiership leaders, Sherwood deserves to be acknowledged. His cost to Blackburn, a mere half million pounds, was petty cash in the Jack Walker scheme of things; but the man who was his first manager, none other than Graham Taylor at Watford, yesterday confirmed that he had long expected Sherwood to blossom.

Taylor had not capped him, though. Venables might, and this at a time when everyone keeps asking why the squad has no place for Cole, Collymore, Sutton, or even Waddle.

But, with Liverpool playing what to them is the greater priority of a Coca-Cola Cup semi-final on the same night, it is the young Tottenham pair that takes the eye. Barmby has in fact been doing that for the past couple of months.

He was scintillating against Blackburn on Sunday. Playing on the left of midfield, he used his change of pace, effervescent enthusiasm and perceptive eye to roam into goalscoring positions behind Kinsman and Sheringham.

When Barmby was a schoolboy in Hull, the son of a prolific non-League scorer, he was coveted by Liverpool, Manchester United and Arsenal. Tottenham won his favours, however, and by 18 his career was thought jeopardised by growing pains.

Venables was his club manager but, on tour with England in the World Under-19 tournament in Australia, he complained of shin splints. He needed operations in both legs yet, this season, under another

new manager in Gerry Francis, he seemed at first dismayed to be played in midfield, and then homesick for the North. A new four-and-a-half-year contract, signed last week, cured that.

"Like Beardsley," Venables observed, "he can play anywhere. He is performing now like I knew he could. He is over the bad time with injury. He's what I call a knowledgeable player."

Venables also waxed lyrical about the other youth player whom he nurtured until Sugar elbowed him out of White Hart Lane. "Sol Campbell is another of the new breed of educated players, the boys of the future," the England coach said. "Notwithstanding that such adjectives, when applied to the embryonic Crystal Palace team forged under Venables, never came up to

ENGLAND SQUAD

D. Gossens (Aston), T. Flowers (Blackburn), W. Barton (Wimbledon), A. Adams (Aston), S. Howey (Newcastle), S. Campbell (Tottenham), G. Pellerin (Manchester Utd), S. Pearce (Nottingham Forest), G. Le Roux (Blackburn), D. Anderson (Tottenham), R. Lee (Newcastle), T. Sherwood (Blackburn), P. Ince (Manchester Utd), D. Platt (Sunderland), N. Barmby (Tottenham), D. Wane (Crystal Palace), P. Beardsley (Newcastle), M. Le Tissier (Southampton), I. Wright (Aston), L. Ferdinand (QPR), A. Shaw (Blackburn), E. Sheringham (Tottenham).

expectation, both Barmby and Campbell are exciting.

Campbell, born Sulzer Jeremiah Campbell in Newham, was known as Garth when he played for the England under-18 team that conquered Europe. He has appeared in both full-back positions, centre back, centre midfield, even centre forward, and seldom has he looked out of control either of a six-foot frame or in the demands placed on him.

So, with Darren Anderton marling his recall and with Sheringham also included, Tottenham have four men in the 22-man Venables squad. Blackburn match that, and Arsenal and Newcastle have three apiece. But there are clubs who will not consider a friendly international game in Dublin as top priority. There will be withdrawals, and the boys of the future may by next week be the England internationals of the present.

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